

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1853.

[SIXPENCE { WITH SUPPLEMENT GRATIS.

"TOWN" AND "COUNTRY."

WE continually hear of a "town interest" and of a "country interest," of manufactures being opposed to agriculture, or *vice versa*; and of the views and opinions of "Manchester" as of necessity clashing with those of the rural districts. But with the irrevocable settlement of the Corn-law question, it is time that these idle and mischievous distinctions should disappear, not only from the hearts and understanding, but from the mouths of men. No one in the position of a statesman and legislator, or that of a leader of public opinion, seriously believes that there is, or can be in this country, any interest, however great or powerful in itself that is disconnected with the general interest of the nation. Agriculture is an ancient and honourable art—the most ancient and the most renowned of all the industrial pursuits that occupy the time and the skill of reasonable beings. Without agriculture all other arts would avail us little or nothing. No man of common sense seeks to undervalue or despise it. Above all, no man out of Bedlam advocates the oppression of those who gain their subsistence by it, or would wilfully do anything to cause the fertile fields of his native land to remain untilled, and the sheep and cattle to remain untended upon the hills, for the sake of manufactures or commerce—or any other "interest" still greater, if any greater there can possibly be. On the other hand, the large body of intelligent men interested in agriculture, either as owners or occupiers of the soil, are not so utterly unreasonable as to underrate the importance of manufactures or commerce. The farmers and farm-labourers know full well that—unless their wives and daughters will knit and spin, like the maids of Penelope, in old Homeric fashion; and unless they will themselves renounce their tea, coffee, sugar, tobacco, spice, and many other luxuries, if not necessaries, for the due supply of which countless fleets make the circuit of the globe—there must be such

persons as handcraftsmen and mariners; and that, the more these prosper, the better for agriculture, and for all engaged in it.

But these things are truisms; although a stranger to our habits might imagine, after attendance at some of our public meetings, and after perusal of some of our daily and weekly disseminators of opinion, that the British public had not yet arrived at the distinct knowledge of them. The old cry is still kept up, though it has long ceased to serve its purpose, and become obsolete; and a venerable absurdity still totters about the earth, and will not die; although its time has long since expired, and it only exists upon sufferance.

We are, therefore, glad to see that Mr. Disraeli—the leader of a party which has long made, and whenever it has a chance, continues to make, unreasonable demands on behalf of those engaged in the cultivation of the soil, as if they were a race apart, and privileged and entitled to receive more favour and protection from the State than their fellow-citizens engaged in other avocations—has at length deemed it necessary to administer a gentle reproof to these, and to all others who would set class against class and interest against interest. "There is," said the right honourable gentleman, "no difference of material interests between town and country. I am told," he continued, "that between the great towns and the country gentlemen there is a difference of material interests. I am told that there are moral, social, and political differences between them also. I should be very loth to believe it." Some moral and social differences there are, notwithstanding Mr. Disraeli's unwillingness to believe in them. The dwellers in towns are necessarily quicker and better informed than those who inhabit purely rural districts. The townsman rubs more frequently against his fellows than the peasant. He is nearer the centres of intelligence and of opinion. He has greater opportunities of learning and hearing the march of the world. The daily intercourse of life is more favourable to the

development of his mind; and as his circle of observation is more extended, his means of self-instruction and elevation are more numerous. The peasant is cut off from much, if not all, of this sharpening and invigorating influence, and his bright faculties but too often go to rust for want of exercise. Our foolish taxes upon literature and upon knowledge aggravate the loneliness of his position, and keep his mind darker than it need be, by depriving him of the current history of his country and his time. But these differences are not political ones. Going on to argue that it was neither our manufactures, nor our commerce, nor our own agriculture, separately or combined, that made this country pre-eminent among the nations of the world, but the force of the national character, our long assured liberties, and the sterling worth of our venerable institutions, Mr. Disraeli denounced those who showed political hostility to the land; and, without intending it, denounced in the same breath all those who would express political hostility to the towns. Mr. Disraeli's position as the leader of what is called the "country" or agricultural party—a party that we hope will very speedily change its name—thinks it incumbent upon him to be more severe upon those who fancy themselves opposed to the landed interest than upon such of his followers as imagine their interests irreconcileable with those of traders and manufacturers. Yet we know enough of Mr. Disraeli's career as a Minister to be certain that were he again in the possession of the power which he covets, he would not incur the risk of damaging the general interests of the nation for the purpose of showing undue favour to the cultivators of the soil. And it is not only Mr. Disraeli, but those whose general views on politics are diametrically opposed to his own, who take this view of a statesman's duties and responsibilities. Were it possible by any turn in the wheel of politics that Mr. Cobden or Mr. Bright should next week become Chancellor of the Exchequer, it is morally certain that neither of these gentlemen would seek



A BUSH-FIRE IN AUSTRALIA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE)

for an instant to discourage or oppress agriculture, or confer upon the towns and their industrious people any privilege or immunity whatsoever, that would render the business of the farmer less profitable than it now is. We may be sure, too, that they would not even inflict a moral hardship upon the estimable men to whom we are mainly indebted for all the first necessities of existence. They would not consider themselves the ministers of Manchester, or ignore the feelings and the rights of all who were not cotton-spinners, wool-manufacturers, or workers in brass and iron; but would do impartial justice, like men of common sense and common honesty.

We could have wished that Mr. Disraeli's reprimand had been somewhat stronger; but, such as it is, it may afford a proof that a foolish distinction is beginning to be disconcerted by the leaders of the party that was formerly most zealous in insisting upon it. They are at length aware to the fullest extent of the fact that the interests of all classes are identical. Who is there who does not know that nothing causes such ruin to trade and manufactures as a bad harvest? and that the non-arrival of one year's supply of cotton from the United States of America would be felt as a calamity in the remotest hamlet and village of the empire, as well as in Manchester, and that it would affect the "many-acred squires" of Buckinghamshire, Wiltshire, and Devonshire almost as seriously as it would the mill owners of the West Riding? In the practice of statesmanship it is now found to be utterly impossible to legislate for a class, however powerful and pertinacious. Such legislation, as history records, was attempted by the original framers of the Corn-laws. The result—after thirty years of discontent and suffering—would, in all probability, have been a revolution, if it had not been for the sagacity and self-sacrificing patriotism of the late Sir Robert Peel. That struggle has happily ended. Not only all the "best heads," but even the inferior heads that formerly believed in the policy and necessity of taxing foreign corn, have gone over to the other side, and the political differences between the plough and the spinning-jenny, and between the country and the town, are virtually at an end. It will be wise policy not to revive the remembrance of them. The division of Monday night, and the large majority in favour of the Budget, show that the present Parliament will not countenance them any longer, and that the future policy of Parliament will, in the words of Lord John Russell, be such "as will neither neglect the interests of the land, nor the interests of trade, but consult all together; showing no undue favour to any class, but adopting a course which each will acknowledge to be just."

A BUSH FIRE IN AUSTRALIA.

BY AN AUSTRALIAN SQUATTER.

(From a Correspondent.)

My companion and myself breakfasted when the sun was little more than half an hour high; and, mounting our horses, we crossed the river on a punt which does duty for a bridge, and directed our horses' heads towards Melbourne. For the first hour we rode slowly, to allow our horses to come to their wind, of which they were likely to have need; for we had determined on sleeping in an inn on the Melbourne side of the Big Hill, which gave us about ninety miles of a ride to do. An hour elapsed, and then we began to canter gently: the canter became quicker until we had increased our pace to a hand-gallop. Perhaps there are no horses in the world more deserving of repute for what is termed *bottom* than those reared in New Holland; and certainly none which receive worse treatment or do harder work. Who would think of riding an unfortunate grass-fed beast ninety miles in Europe, with nothing by the way but two feed of oats, or an hour and a half's liberty, to feed on grass? This, however, is what we proposed to do, and had often done before. Nor was this our first day's journey on the same beasts, as the day before we had come twenty, and the day before that thirty-five miles, across the bare plains of the Edwards's River.

The miles began to diminish as we kept on at a long steady hand-gallop, pulling up our beasts for a few moments every mile and a half, or two miles, to a walk. The white bleached plains of the Campaspe, were left behind. The heavy, sandy she-oak and box forests, also were passed. The M'ivor Creek was gained; and in the roadside inn of the same name our horses had an hour's respite. We again mounted and passed on. But what avails it to name hills, creeks, or plains, that so few know. Let us suppose ourselves within four miles of the little township of Kilmore. A bush fire was raging on either side of us as we descended into the rich flats which lie to the north-west of that township. As we advanced we noticed that the hills around us in every direction were enveloped in a dense smoke, and mostly to the southward, rising thickly from the summits of the Big Hill, across which lay our route. The heat was intense; huge surges of fire were visible in the distance, rolling with resistless impetus over the plains, leaping on the wooded hills, blackening all that it passed over, and causing affright and destruction in its course.

Coming in view of a station which is situated in this fine undulating park-like country, a disastrous scene presented itself to our eyes. The hills, as I have said, in every direction were enveloped in a dense lurid smoke. Huge trees—like gigantic funnels of steam-engines—were belching forth flames thirty, forty, and even fifty feet in height, which waved and curled in the wind. Horses were galloping affrighted over the plain, and cattle in long lines were rushing before us, bellowing as they poured into the flats. Shepherds were to be descried as they hurried their flocks for protection towards those spots where the grass was shortest. Here and there was a horseman galloping at headlong speed to his home in the forests: all were seeking safety from the merciless element.

A wild dog, which had been dislodged, came to the edge of the forest. Loath to abandon his cover, he stood for a moment uncertain, lifted up his voice in a long piteous howl, scoured across the plain, and, in a moment was hid from our sight by the tall green reeds on the banks of the creek. Below us was a station; near the house were a barn and wool-shed, and many stacks of oats and wheat. The fire was creeping gradually and slowly towards them; a thread of fire—if I may use the expression—like a thing ended with life, like a brilliant serpent—was winding its way amongst the grass to the fated stacks and buildings. We at a distance at once saw that the struggles of the proprietor and several of his men to arrest the flames were utterly hopeless; and, therefore, did not move to assist them, but alighted from our horses to view the catastrophe. They were as children on the shores of the sea who would fain bar back the tide. In vain they plied their green boughs, beating out for an instant the point of the flames most in advance. The luminous monster, as if forecasting a prey, noiselessly stole on. There was but little smoke from this part of the fire as the grass was short, but it was very dry, and a wind was breathing on the fire. In vain were struggles! in vain were hopes! but man will struggle: even death is met with less regret, *doing*. And the hardy Britons wrestled with their foe; but in every direction it over-lapped them, and without a check kept on, and at every point they were beaten back. They did their duty well, and retired slowly, leaving nothing untried. And now the fence which enclosed the stack-yard was almost gained. I saw the master throw down his bough, and could fancy I heard him exclaim, "It's useless;" for his men all imitated his example, and it was time, unless they had resolved to conquer their foe or be roasted. They had just time, and time only, to escape from their perilous position, all blackened and begrimed with the smoke and ashes: a minute more and it would have been too late.

The fire had conquered: it leaped on its prey, it reared its gorgeous crest upon the stacks, a dense smoke arose, a mimic volcano spouted its flames, and in two minutes all was reduced to ashes.

Without proffering useless condolence, we mounted our horses and pushed on. For three miles we met no fire, and were about to quit the little enclosed farms, which on a bright spring morning have sometimes recalled to my mind the green fields of England, where I passed some of my boyish years; when, before us to the southward, and on our left, to the east, we met the advancing flames. The stubble was on fire. The fences which separated the various farms were glaring red; the flames were roaring as they swept over these lands, reducing to ashes in a moment the stacks of the poor farmers. Here we met a woman and four children on the road; she was crying, and told us yon burning house had been her home. I pointed to her in which direction to fly, and we galloped on. The two fires were now meeting and burning the large brush fences on each side of the very wide road. Four hundred

yards would see us in the township, and we clapped spurs to our horses, but soon repented. I happened to be leading, and pulled up. "I cannot stand this," said I. "Nor I," answered my companion. Not another word was spoken. We returned at a gallop, our horses evidently much frightened. I felt as if I was suffocated. Escaped from the flames, we kept a little to the right, headed the fire, and passed by a hut as yet distant from danger. The owner of it asked me to tell some of the people of Kilmore to come to his assistance. It was perfectly useless, such a fire brooks not resistance. We hurried on, and passed a little boy crying as he ran along—he was not on the road, but going in the right direction. I was sorry afterwards that we had not seen him out of danger. I hope he found his home.

We had now passed the worst of it, and were soon in the town, where ourselves and horses were glad of a little refreshment after our hot work. Who can tell the amount of ginger-beer we drank, or the number of pipes we smoked, as we listened to the various accounts, rumours, and opinions concerning the fire; for the fire, of course, was the general topic of conversation. It extended over many miles of country; I cannot at this moment recollect how many, but if I say sixty or seventy I am within the mark. Indeed, bush fires are often much more extensive. Some of the squatters in the inn related how several thousand sheep had been overtaken and burnt in one direction; others spoke of houses and huts; and another of a woman and four children, who had fallen victims to the flames; and all concurred in the opinion that to cross the Big Hill on the road to town was impossible. That, however, we had determined to essay, though there were two people present, who had made the attempt, been forced to return. Business, however, of an urgent nature forbade our delaying; besides, we were heated by what we had passed, and screwed up to the right pitch to do whatever was possible. Indeed, had we been cool and unexcited, I am not sure but that the smoke and flames which were visible from the windows of the inn, would have taken away all hopes of pursuing our road. As it was, they only urged us on to try what we could do.

An hour passed, and we were again in the saddle. The sun was getting low, and had lost some of his power; but it was most plentifully made up for by the scorching breeze, which blew over the burnt and smouldering plains and forests. A few yards from our inn-door was the commencement of our forest-road; and, shoving our feet home in the stirrups, and drawing our straw hats tightly over our brows, we struck in our spurs, and gave our horses the rein. And truly it was clear to us that those who had described the road had neither exaggerated its dangers nor its inconveniences. Hundreds of hollow trees were on fire; their interiors, when visible, appeared perfect furnaces, and they sent forth a heat which, when we were obliged to pass near them, was truly terrific. At times I thought I should fall from my saddle, which I could not but think began to feel very crisp beneath me. The wind every now and then roared through the burning waste, carrying with it dense clouds of ashes, obscuring everything nearly to the darkness of night. In these moments we were obliged to pull up, as the road became quite invisible, though at other times so distinct that on ordinary nights I have galloped along it without inconvenience. Trees, a moment before spouting cataracts of flame caught by the wind, were falling with heavy crashes around us, filling the smoky air with sparks and hot ashes. We had nothing but Providence to rely on, and knew not the moment that one might fall on ourselves. Our horses, though long urged in this furnace-like atmosphere to a smart gallop, were quite dry; the sweat, no doubt, carried off by the intense heat of the atmosphere. Several times I thought it very problematical whether we should ever make our exit; and yet there was an excitement about the thing that did not make me regret having made the attempt. But the road seemed dreadfully long, and the various objects which recalled our "whereabouts" were burnt or invisible. Here and there a fallen tree, like a pillar of fire, lay across our path, obliging us to leave the road and go round it; and when off the beaten track, our horses, in the obscurity, sometimes trod on spots where fire had crept into the earth, along the rotten roots of trees destroyed by former fires, burning their feet, and covering themselves and riders with hot ashes. My face, too, had just that sort of feeling which made me almost fancy that a rub of my hand would bring the skin off. It certainly was the hottest job I was ever engaged in.

At last we saw some clear ground before us. This was the summit of the hill; and on the last rise, as we emerged from the thickest of the fire, we saw before us several bullock-drays, and their teams, standing on the side of the hill. The drivers were, like us, begrimed with the ashes and smoke which proceeded from the burning forest; they were seated on the ground in silence, their heads resting in their hands; nor did they perceive us until we were within a few yards of them. When they saw us, they all rose to ask about the road. Our reply, of course, put an end to their hopes of proceeding; and we recommended them to chain their beasts to the surrounding trees, in order to avoid the hazard of their wandering in search of water and getting burnt.

Our troubles were now past; twelve miles of unobstructed road lay before us, and eight of a burning forest were in our rear. Our horses, in the comparatively cool atmosphere, became quite refreshed; and we pushed on to the Kenlochewe, where, like *Jack Falstaff*, we might ask each other, "Shall we not take our ease in our inn?"

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

MEETING OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AT LINCOLN IN 1854.—A deputation from Lincoln, consisting of the present Mayor of Lincoln, Robert Gardner Hill, Esq., F.S.A.; the Hon. A. L. Melville, and other gentlemen, waited on the council of the Royal Agricultural Society, praying that the meeting of 1854 should be held at Lincoln. The council of the Society graciously acquiesced in the request of the deputation.

THE BUDGET AT MANCHESTER.—In answer to a memorial from the Manchester Commercial Association in support of the Budget, Mr. Gladstone has written an autograph letter, in which he says:—"I have read this memorial, proceeding from a body of such intelligence and weight, with much gratification, and I am confident, I may say, on the part of my colleagues and on my own, that it will encourage us to persevere, as opportunity may offer, in the promotion of measures conformable to the policy on which the proposals now before Parliament are

SOUTHAMPTON.—The steam-ship *Magdalena*, Captain Chapman, arrived here on Tuesday afternoon, with the usual West India and Mexican mails. She brings the large number of 125 passengers; and also on freight 3,000,000 dollars on merchants' account, 8000 dollars' worth of pearls, £3523 platina and gold, £2065 precious stones, 77 serons of cochineal, 22 ditto of jalapa, 54 barrels of coffee, 94 cases of cigars, 166 bales of tobacco, 23 bales of sarsaparilla, 8 packages of succades, and 49 pieces of coffee.

THE PRICE OF WOOL.—The *Galway Packet* says:—"It is worthy of remark that the price of wool, which was only 18s. 6d. last October, is now run up to £1 3s. 6d. This extraordinary rise is attributed to the short supplies from Australia, where stock farming has been neglected for the more exciting and profitable occupation of gold-digging."

THE HALF-HOLIDAY MOVEMENT.—A successful meeting has taken place in Birmingham, upon the subject of closing places of business at mid-day on Saturdays. Several firms declared their readiness to join the movement, and it was stated that nearly 9000 people in Birmingham participated in the boom.

THE FRAUDS ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT SAVINGS-BANK.—Yelf, the fraudulent savings-bank actuary, has been fully committed on charges of forgery and larceny. He robbed the bank chiefly by forged cheques during the eleven years to above £8000. Had the directors, when Yelf presented a forged cheque, looked at the index of the bank ledger to see if the drawer's name appeared there, or that he had any effects, the forgery must have been detected. After the frauds in the Rochdale savings-bank were known, Government ordered an examination throughout the country, the directors of the Isle of Wight savings-bank entrusted Yelf with the examination, who pronounced accounts of course correct, and the directors were satisfied! Yelf is £1450 in debt to the Stamp-office, and the authorities have seized upon his property, so there will not be a farthing for his savings-bank creditors. A poor old Isle of Wight shepherd, named Cass (all his lifetime economical), is a sufferer from Yelf's defalcations. In early life Cass had saved £200. This he lost through the failure of the party where it was placed. By renewed efforts he scraped together £100, and placed it in a private bank. The bank broke, and he lost all again. He once more saved and deposited in the Newport bank, and the poor old man is again a loser. Yelf was a bookseller and savings-printer, and had a tolerably good business; and during the time the forgeries were going on, did duty as a religious preacher.

FLIGHT OF A SUPERINTENDENT AND INSPECTOR OF POLICE.—On Saturday last information was received from Tunbridge-wells, of the sudden disappearance of Superintendent Morton and Inspector Dawson, of their town police—two officers upon whom the greatest confidence was reposed on account of their extreme activity in routing out one of the most notorious gangs of thieves in the county, and in connection with the Frimley murderers. Morton has been nearly nine years superintendent at Tunbridge-wells. It is supposed that he is a considerable defaulter, and that most serious charges can be brought against both the runaways.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE work of embellishment goes on more actively than ever in the Bois de Boulogne; and such is the interest displayed by the Emperor in its execution, that he superintends, personally and on foot, the workmen employed in it. No less energetic are the labours bestowed on and about the continuation of the Rue de Rivoli: not only houses but whole streets are being swept away and rebuilt with an astonishing rapidity—to the extreme inconvenience and even distress of the inhabitants, who are often left houseless, being unable, in consequence of the immense rise of rents, to find lodgings on terms suited to their means.

Within a few days the Palais Royal is to be given up to the *ex-Roi* Jérôme, for whose reception it has been for so many months preparing. The apartments once occupied by Cambacères are designed for the Prince Napoleon: who, however, is, we believe, disposed to remain for the present in the *appartement* he has arranged with no less taste than luxury in the Rue de l'Université.

The principal gaieties of the past week have been the Ministerial receptions, most of which were very brilliant; probably, because they are almost the last grand entertainments of the season. There was M. Billault's dinner: an Archibishop and a Cardinal, senators, members of the Corps d'Etat, and the Corps Législatif, to the number of about forty guests. M. de Persigny (Madame de Persigny was not visible, on account of indisposition, to which it is a matter of remark, she is very subject on reception nights, though her general health is happily good), M. Fartoul, M. Baroche, M. Maupas—in short, all the Ministers, with the exception of M. St. Arnaud, whose health, though much improved, does not as yet permit him to entertain or to go into society—followed in the wake; and almost every evening in the week was thus employed.

M. de Lamartine has just placed in the hands of the editor of the *Siecle* the first volume of his "Histoire de la Constituante." It is said that this book will not only sustain but increase the reputation of its gifted author. A society has recently been formed for the exploitation of M. de Lamartine's works, in order to relieve him from the pecuniary difficulties into which unfortunate circumstances, united to his too generous liberality, and his inattention to his affairs, consequent on his uncertain health and ceaseless literary occupations, had plunged him. Almost all the shares are already placed, numbers having been subscribed for by the peasants of Saône-et-Loire, and other departments, in token of the popular esteem and regard in which the home of the poet, historian, and politician is held. M. de Lamartine has just quitted the *appartement* he recently occupied in the Rue de l'Université, for a small house with a garden, in the Rue de la Ville l'Évêque, for greater repose and tranquillity, to continue his literary labours.

A variety of theatrical and musical novelties are in preparation. At the *Fransais*, "Mirabeau," by M. A. Pouroy; at the *Gaité*, "Le Pirate," by M. B. Lossey; and M. Pousard is, it is whispered, writing a comedy on a most impressive and novel subject for Mlle. Rachel. The concert of M. Jaques Offenbach, announced for the 6th instant, promises, from the programme, to be the most brilliant and attractive of the season, uniting the first talents of the day, performing some of the best music. Mlle. Madeleine Brohan, whom report has already fiancé some half-dozen times, is, we are assured, to be married—*pour de bon* this time—to a M. Huchard, on her return from her London engagement.

The arrival of spring is opening all the summer fêtes in and about Paris. On the 1st, the Hippodrome commenced its season, with a magnificent *carrousel militaire*, "the Chariot of the Birth of Venus," and a variety of other brilliant spectacles. The Park and Château d'Asnières, Ranelagh, and all the other public gardens, are hanging up their coloured lamps and decorations, tuning their fiddles, and making their preparations for the reception of the thousands of guests of all ages, fortunes, grades, and positions who, in the course of the next four or five months, will frequent them. These public fêtes have in France a charm not confined to the trading or lower classes. Of course, these are their principal supporters; but there is generally, especially on particular occasions, a considerable sprinkling of the higher grades of society, many men and some women—the former dancing and amusing themselves with all their hearts; the latter in a sort of half incognita, which, however, they take little pains to preserve, walking about on the arm of some steadier cavalier, enjoying the *coup d'œil*, the gaiety, the dancing, the music—almost always good—and the taste and ingenuity with which some half-dozen acres of unpromising ground are made to represent garden, grove, shrubbery, wood, and wilderness.

We hope in our next letter to be able to entertain our readers with an account, from our own personal experience, of some of the extraordinary table-moving experiments daily taking place here. The phenomenon is become too general to admit of contradiction, but we will say nothing on the subject till we can speak from our own observation.

The *Moniteur* announces that her Majesty the Empress, who has been *encinte* for two months, and who has been unwell for the last few days, miscarried on the evening of the 29th of April. Her Majesty's health is, however, as satisfactory as can be expected under the circumstances. It was said that she sustained serious injury from the fatigue of standing five hours during the ceremony of presenting Archbishop Morlot with the red hat of a cardinal. Wednesday's letters state that the Empress is considerably better in health, but that she still, on the recommendation of Dr. Dubois, keeps her bed.

It is stated that the Empress has decided on not accepting the dotation which the Senate is disposed to offer her Majesty.

The Marquis de Valdegamas, Spanish Ambassador in Paris, died on Tuesday. The Marquis de Valdegamas, better known as Juan Donoso Cortes, had been the warm advocate of liberal institutions in Spain; but recoiled with disgust from the excesses which followed the revolutionary outbreak of 1848. From that period his political opinions underwent a change, which he carried to an extreme.

A private letter from Toulon gives sad details respecting the recent departure of 200 political convicts for Cayenne. These unhappy prisoners uttered the most lamentable cries on going on board, and some were in such an excited state that they had to be bound, and borne in that condition on board the vessel.

The Emperor has commuted the sentence of death passed on the individuals named Mercadies, Galzy, Delpech, Denis Carrier, Barthez, Gardy, Triadon, by court-martial on the 24th December, 1852, into hard labour for life. Those persons were engaged in the insurrectionary movements which took place at Bedarieux after the *coup d'état* in December, 1851.

A communication by electric telegraph is now open between Paris and Evreux, and Paris and Bayonne.

The rise in public securities made further progress at the Bourse on Wednesday. This improvement is attributed to the result of the division in the House of Commons on the Budget in favour of Ministers, and to the expectation that a number of the holders of Three per Cent Consols will transfer their capital to the French *rentes*. The Three per Cents opened at 81f. 50c., rose to 81f. 75c., and closed at 81f. 70c. for the end of the month; the Four-and-a-Half per Cents closed at 103f. 90c.

BELGIUM.

The French Cabinet has despatched to Belgium M. His de Butenval, who recently proved himself at Turin to be one of their most unscrupulous agents. It is stated that some weeks ago an intimation reached the little Court of Brussels to the effect that any serious acquisition made by Russia in the East would

DENMARK.

We announced last week the rejection of the bill regulating the succession, and the appointment of a new Ministry. The Constitution framed in 1848 has virtually placed the supreme power in the hands of the minority, by requiring on certain questions that resolutions should be carried by three-fourths of the votes given. The Government is now once more thrown into agitation by the refusal of the Assembly to accede to the conditions to which the very existence and integrity of the Danish monarchy are attached. This absurd conduct of the minority tends unhappily to undermine the Constitution itself, and, possibly, to affect the independence of the State.

GERMANY.

The Bishop of Ripon will visit Berlin next June, for the purpose of confirming such youthful members of the Church of England as are prevented from celebrating this rite in England.

The question of the political refugees in England has been brought before the German Bund; and the declaration of the Prussian Government is published. It amounts to this. Prussia has full reliance that the British Government will do everything in its power to assist in the punishment of past and the prevention of future outrages; and therefore it is held, that any demonstration which might make it appear that foreign powers influenced the British Government would impede the fulfilment of this expectation.

A letter from Vienna, of the 29th ult., says:—

The Emperor this day held his first public reception since his recovery. It is said that the Emperor of Russia, the King of the Belgians and the Duke de Brabant, the King of Prussia, Bavaria, Greece, and Naples, and the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, are to arrive here in the course of the month of May.

SWITZERLAND.

The investigation into the late sedition at Freiburg is being actively prosecuted. The effect of the Austrian Minister's last note at Berne was such that the Swiss Federal Council was on the point of sending him his passports; and France holds herself in readiness to make a counter demonstration on the western frontier.

ITALY.

A private letter from Rome of the 21st ult. says that the Pope has sent a "special blessing" to Dr. Newman in his own handwriting, which is not usually done. "I had the document in my hands," adds the writer, "and I give you the translation as well as my memory serves me:—

May the Almighty and merciful God bless him, and give him grace and strength to withstand the attacks of his enemies, and to resist the assaults of the evil one; and may he remember that, being acceptable to God, he must be well proved by temptation.

The Papal Government continues to exhibit the total and irretrievable decay of its temporal authority in direct connection with unlimited and unprecedented claims to spiritual supremacy. A French brigade is its only defence in Rome; but, in France, it prohibits books, impugns the ecclesiastical law, suspends the clergy from their functions, and publishes edicts, which are received by French Bishops "on their knees," with the fulsome ejaculation, "Peter has spoken by the lips of the immortal Pius IX."

In Piedmont, the Government struggles manfully in defence of the rights of the house of Savoy, the independence of the State, and the constitutional franchises of the people. But, with all its ability and zeal, it is the Government of an intelligent minority, detested by a large portion of the upper classes and of the clergy, ill-supported in some parts of the King's dominions, and liable to be betrayed in an emergency by the Italian people. Between Austria and Piedmont, as well as between Austria and Switzerland, the seeds of hostility and ill-neighbourhood have been sown by Mazzini's mischievous insurrection, and the Cabinet of Turin has once more been led to expose itself to peril by a spirited defence of men who have done nothing to win the respect of the country.

The Austrian army which occupies Tuscany is to be lessened by 2000 men, who are to be detached into the Romagna.

SPAIN.

The present Cabinet is said to be one of transition merely. M. Bermudez de Castro, Minister of Finance, gave in his resignation on the 29th; but the Queen did not accept it, and the Ministerial crisis still continued. That there exists in the highest quarter a determination to aim a fatal blow at constitutional government in Spain there can be no doubt whatever, and it is equally certain that no Ministry can expect to hold its place in quiet, or for any long period, who will not consent to become accomplices in the act. The real danger to the crown of Isabella II. will proceed, not from the excesses of the Liberal party, but from the attempts to introduce an absolute system of Government in place of a Constitutional one. Every man of eminence in politics is arrayed against the extraordinary and destructive policy of the Court. Narvaez is still kept in banishment and in disgrace. The Palace is the scene of intrigues between Christina, Munoz, and their creatures, which can only be compared to the scandalous excesses of Godoy. The Queen herself has more than once been on the point of destroying that Constitutional Charter, which is her best title to the throne; and the house of Bourbon seems only to have prolonged its existence in Spain to exhibit to the world the degradation of a race of kings.

PORTUGAL.

We have Lisbon letters to the 29th ult. The Chamber of Deputies had approved all the dictatorial decrees of 1851 and 1852 by eighty votes against twenty. The declining health of Marshal Saldanha seems likely, ere long, to renew the contest of parties for that power which he obtained by a military revolt, though he has since exercised it with moderation.

The railroad had not been opened, and difficulties appeared still to impede the project; the excuse now being that a bill had to be passed through the Cortes before the works could commence.

TURKEY.

A despatch from Constantinople, dated the 25th ult., says that the question of the Holy Places is settled, and great concessions have been made to Russia. M. de Lacour, the French Minister, is said to have displayed a very conciliatory spirit in the negotiations. The only negotiations now pending are relative to the question of the Greek Patriarch. All the armaments have been suspended. The exchange on London has risen. The blockade of the Albanian coast has been raised, and the fleet employed on that service has returned to Constantinople.

PERSIA.

Persia is preparing for another expedition against Herat. The British Ambassador, Colonel Shiel, had declared that he would demand his passports if the projected expedition were carried out.

CHINA.

The precise claims of the rebel leader, and the grounds of disaffection with the Imperial Government which influence his followers, are not clearly stated in any of the ordinary communications from China. Those communications would lead to the supposition that the weakness of the reigning dynasty had invited an attempt at its expulsion from the immense empire which its more vigorous founders subdued two centuries ago. But a Californian journal contains a statement relative to the rebel leader and his objects, which, if true, casts an entirely new light on the circumstances of the case. This statement is as follows:—

The Rev. J. J. Roberts, a native of North Carolina, who has been residing some years in China, writes a remarkable letter to a friend in California relative to the Chinese rebellion. He says—"The chief leader in the affair turns out to be, as I learned at Hong-Kong, a man whose surname is Hungname Saw-Chuen. He came to Canton and studied Christianity for several months, some five or six years ago, and instead of raising a rebellion to upset the Government, he seems rather struggling for religious liberty, and is upsetting idolatry. He is a man of no extraordinary appearance, about 5 feet 4 or 5 inches high, well built, round-faced, regular in his features, rather handsome, about middle-aged, and of gentlemanly manners. While here, he applied himself to the study of the Scriptures, daily committing them to memory; and maintained a blameless deportment. He requested to be baptised, but left for Kwangsi before he was fully satisfied of his fitness. When he first came to us, he brought some pieces of poetry and other essays which he had written respecting the Christian religion, the knowledge of which he professed to have derived—first, from a tract received at one of the examinations in Canton; and, secondly, from a vision he had while sick, which, he said, corroborated the doctrines learnt out of the book; and hence he believed in the true God, and came to Canton expressly to be instructed, and to learn the will of the Lord more perfectly from his own Word. . . . I am informed that about 100,000 are now numbered on the side of the chief; that he is popular among the people, treating them with respect, generosity, and kindness.

In addition to this singular story, it is said in other quarters that the

Emperor of China is a Christian, and the Emperor himself more than half a convert.

AUSTRALIA.

The *Statesman* has arrived from Port Phillip, having sailed on the 20th of January. The total amount of gold she brings is not at present known, the advices only giving the shipments from Geelong, which were 10,329 ounces, valued at about £42,000. The intelligence by this opportunity is two days later, but comprises few points of interest. An arrival by private escort of 20,204 ounces of gold had been announced; and the latest accounts from the mines were satisfactory. New discoveries had been made at Ballarat, the value of which appeared to be undoubted. The quotation of gold in Melbourne was £3 12s. 6d. per ounce. Sales of real property continued to be made at advanced prices. It is stated in private advices from Sydney that the net profits of the Scottish Australian Investment Company for the half year ending December amount to £8700.

MUSIC.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

The sensation produced at the Quartet Association by the performance of a quartet by Cherubini; and, more recently, at the New Philharmonic Society, by the execution of his sublime "Requiem" in C minor, gave to the programme of Monday's Philharmonic Concert peculiar interest, as it was stated that a symphony by the Italian composer, expressly composed for the society, would be revived. At length, then, justice is to be done to one of the most distinguished composers of his epoch; and gradually is the period approaching when the "agitation" made in the columns of the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS*, on behalf of Cherubini's lyric productions, will meet with the success which attended our efforts to make the works of Meyerbeer known in this country. "Lodoiska," "Medea," "Les Deux Journées," &c., have yet to be tried here are the Florentine's fame rests chiefly on his overtures. In the meanwhile, prejudices are being dispelled—exclusiveness in schools is becoming extinct—and it may be really believed that, some day, even English musicians will have their chance, especially if they will throw off their bigotry and asperity, and become liberal and tolerant in their strictures on "foreigners and foreign art."

Cherubini's Symphony (which was arranged as a quartet, and played last season by the association) is not of the grandest scale. Its proportions, indeed, if compared with those of Beethoven, are small; but there is a liveliness in the ideas, and a richness in the orchestration, which impress the hearer with the most pleasurable sensations. In the slow movement, the passion of the south sings forth in melodious strains; in the minuetto, there is a quaintness and vivacity quite piquant and even exciting; the dialogue in the wood band was delicious—the players seemed to revel in it, and the auditor to sympathise most cordially with them. The Symphony was cautiously received—Philharmonic hearers are so fearful of their idols being disturbed, as if there was not room for any one except Beethoven, Mozart, Haydn, and Mendelssohn. Another novelty in the scheme was Molique's violoncello concert, played by Piatti: here the admiration was equally divided between composer and executant; the slow movement was heard with enthusiasm. The concerto is a fine conception from one of the greatest of living musicians; and, with the exception of a little triviality in the finale, may be pronounced to be admirably constructed, and fancifully scored. The cantabile of Piatti was divine, and his passage playing a wondrous display of executive perfection. Next in interest and importance was Halle's noble and romantic "Genaro"; and Ronconi enacting the revengeful "Duke with tiger like stealthiness and ferocity." Mdlle. Didié was the generous "Maffio Orsini." The new contralto made a favourable impression. She is not an Alboni, nor is she an Angri. She is a better actress, but is not so good a singer, as De Meric; and is assuredly an improvement on Seguin. She won the encore for the brindisi more by her energy than by her style. Her method is, in fact, peculiar, and she lacks refinement. After all, a "Lucrezia" with such a triad of artists as Grisi, Mario, and Ronconi—what more can be required? The trio was, of course, rapturously demanded, by a house filled to overflow, in every part. Altogether, it was a magnificent representation—band and chorus striving to keep pace with the distinguished talents of the leading performers.

When the French claim their Talma, and the English vaunt their Garrick, Kemble, or Kean—Italy, sunk as she is in fine art, in the present age, may raise her drooping lyre, and, as she sweeps the strings, may exultingly exclaim, "Ronconi!" Such singing and such acting as are combined in his *Chevreuse* must be recorded as the most marvellous exhibition of power and passion that can ever be hoped to be seen on a lyric stage. On Thursday, for the extra night, Donizetti's "Lucrezia Borgia" was revived—glorious Grisi resuming her grand impersonation of Victor Hugo's terrible heroine; Mario singing with his flute-like mellifluousness, the noble and romantic "Genaro"; and Ronconi enacting the revengeful "Duke with tiger like stealthiness and ferocity." Mdlle. Didié was the generous "Maffio Orsini." The new contralto made a favourable impression. She is not an Alboni, nor is she an Angri. She is a better actress, but is not so good a singer, as De Meric; and is assuredly an improvement on Seguin. She won the encore for the brindisi more by her energy than by her style. Her method is, in fact, peculiar, and she lacks refinement. After all, a "Lucrezia" with such a triad of artists as Grisi, Mario, and Ronconi—what more can be required? The trio was, of course, rapturously demanded, by a house filled to overflow, in every part. Altogether, it was a magnificent representation—band and chorus striving to keep pace with the distinguished talents of the leading performers.

Next Thursday the first act of "Norma" and the whole of the "Puritani" will be given; and next Saturday Verdi's "Rigoletto" will be produced.

ST. JAMES'S.

On Monday much excitement was produced by the débüt of Mdlle. Madeline Brohan in MM. Scribe and Legouvé's historical comedy, "Les Comtes de la Reine de Navarre," which was performed for the first time here; and in which Mdlle. Brohan made her first appearance on the Parisian stage in 1850. The play is in five acts, and, as might have been expected, makes wild work of the historical materials. The principal aim of the structure is to present an attractive symbol of its brilliant heroine, *Marguerite de Valois* (Mdlle. Brohan). The subject of the plot is the liberation, by her agency, of her brother, *Francis I.* (M. Lafont), from his imprisonment in Madrid. Her devices towards this object include much comic *espionerie* as well as pathetic earnestness; her talents, also, for story-telling, and the resources of personal fascination, are brought distinctly out in the course of the action, and render the development of the character one of uncommon artistic interest. The action itself is reduced to the utmost simplicity and unity by the dramatists; the time comprising merely a day and night; and the scene being confined to the Royal garden at Madrid. The play commences with the appointment, by *Charles V.*, of *Guattnara*, his Prime Minister, but also lover of *Isabelle of Portugal*, then present at the Spanish Court, as the betrothed of the *Emperor*. Soon after her arrival, *Marguerite* throws her spells over the Spanish despot, and obtains his consent to visit her brother; whom she finds self-doomed to starvation. But she succeeds in persuading him still to live. A scene in which *Marguerite* wins on his affectionate reminiscences, and induces him to pledge the health of his mother and friends, and to partake of wine and fruits, was admirably acted both by Mdlle. Brohan and M. Lafont. For securing his release, however, it is needful that *Francis* should cede the Duchy of Burgundy; but with this his honour forbids compliance. Instead, he proposes to abdicate in favour of his son; but this act must be done secretly, and they are carefully watched. *Marguerite* hits on an expedient. She had already interested *Charles* by one of the tales of her celebrated "Heptameron," and proposes to obtain his permission, in which she succeeds, to send a specimen of the work, among his own despatches, to *Louise of Savoy*, her mother. Of course the instrument of abdication is substituted for the supposed novel. The trick is, however, discovered. For the attempt, nevertheless, *Charles* would appear to admire her the more, and offers to the spirited and ingenious woman his hand; which she, considering the political advantages of such an union, is not indisposed to accept, notwithstanding an inclination in favour of *Henri d'Albret*, Comte de Navarre, which the *Emperor* discovers, and accordingly changes his intentions. A union, however, is effected between the captive *Francis*, and *Eleanor*, sister of *Charles*, who, by means of a secret door, contrives to visit the prisoner. While the marriage ceremony is proceeding, *Marguerite*, by reciting one of her tales to the *Emperor*, prevents him from entering until all is over. *Charles* then gallantly acknowledges his defeat, releases *Francis*; and permits the marriage of *Marguerite* with *Henri*, while *Isabella* is free to wed the *Count Guattnara*. The imbroglio throughout the play is neatly managed; and the quiet yet pointed action of Mdlle. Brohan singularly attractive. Altogether, this is one of the most interesting and effective productions of the season.

LYCEUM.

Under the title of "Trying it On," an adaptation of "Une Rivière dans le Dos" has been produced. Mr. C. Mathews enacting the part of the fidgety pilferer with the success that might have been expected. Mr. William Brough, as the modifier of the play, has shown much ingenuity in the manner of recasting the materials; and the curtain fell to the decided approbation of the audience.

OLYMPIC.

"The Miller of Derwent Water," is the title of a new melodrama at this theatre. It has the merit of evolving a story. Sir Marcus Lister (Mr. Cooke), a capitalist and monopolist, desires to purchase from one Ambrose (Mr. H. Farren), his hereditary mill; and, on his refusal, erects a mill in opposition, and ruins him by underselling. To crown all, the miller's daughter, *Mercy* (Miss Anderton), elopes with Lister's son, who has an independent fortune. Thus all ends happily; and the piece has the fair promise of becoming somewhat popular. This end was promoted by the introduction of some subordinate comic characters, as usual in Mr. Fitzball's pieces, and in which Mr. Robson bore a prominent part.

Gay's "Beggar's Opera" has been given this week at the Strand Theatre; with Miss R. Isaacs as *Polly*, Miss Featherstone as *Lucy*, and Lefler as *Macheath*.

THE UNITED STATES INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

(From our own Correspondent.)

NEW YORK, April 20th.

Most of the exciting accompaniments of the Great Exhibition year in London seem likely to be re-enacted here, with fitting variations, as may suit the different bent of the two nations. With the exception of what may be called the heavier handicrafts, from engineers to teamsters—who are all "on strike" for higher wages—the remaining part of the population seems active and looking forward to an unusually brilliant shopping campaign. Already (thanks to the Great Exhibition) the Broadway stores have assumed more than their wonted splendid appearance; though the delicate wares, whether for apparel or otherwise, seem terribly the worse for the dust arising from a score of upstart hotels rear-ing their heads in every direction. The Crystal Palace and its minor rival, Franconi's Hippodrome, must be supposed to swell the human tide of New Yorkers prodigiously, if they are to attract as many visitors as would fill the hotels, whose yawning brick halls will, in a brief month or two, be ready to shelter and welcome any amount of excursionists.

The great iron frame of the Industrial Palace is complete, save the dome, which may be expected to rear its coësponding head in a few days; meanwhile, the sound of the granite's blast is incessant, as well the hammering of rivets, and the duller sound of the pick-axe. Like its London forerunner, the New York structure has for a while thrown some rather conspicuous pieces of masonry in the shade. It is placed close by the Croton Reservoir; from the parapet of which crowds of eager promenaders watch the progress of the work (a glimpse of the reservoir is seen at the right side of the sketch). On the other side a monster Babel-like wooden tower will soon rear its head some two or

THE THEATRES.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

There seems to be a fatality attendant on the performance of Donizetti's "Maria di Rohan" in this country. Its first production, in May, 1847—although signalled by one of the greatest vocal and histrionic triumphs ever witnessed on any stage, in Ronconi's masterly delineation of *Chevreuse*, a part written expressly for his powers, for the Italian Opera House, in Vienna, in 1843—was exceedingly disastrous, owing to the failure of Madame Ronconi as *Maria*; and this untoward event led to a disun-



PRESENT STATE OF "THE CRYSTAL PALACE," AT NEW YORK.

three hundred feet high. This is Barnum's addition to forthcoming amusements. The galleries are already commenced. One fancies an elephant striding up to its summit, as in some towers of Hindostan. Barnum is precisely the man to revive that eccentric feat.

But all the menageries which have ever appeared here must fade before the troupe of Franconi, who has just arrived. The private view of his equestrian spectacle takes place on the 25th; till then, every one is on the tenter-hooks of expectation. People gape at the very announcements of what is in store for them in the big booth of Madison-square. Imagine announcements comprising "daring feats and animated splendours," the Pentathlon and Stadium, and other athletic entertainments; the whole to be thrown open to the public on the 2nd of May. With one or two exceptions scarce worth mentioning, there has been, as yet, no representative of Ducrow or Astley in America; so that Mons. Franconi will have a clear field before him.

These coming spectacles of the gymnasts have been forestalled by Exhibitions, which appeal to quite other sensations and faculties; we here allude to the New York Academy of Paintings, which was last night opened to private view. The American school of art may safely be said to have considerably progressed, since the time (some score or more years) when Basil Hall pronounced it "hard, flat, and woodeny," though these three adjectives might even now not inaptly suit some of the crudities hung so uncharitably for their owners here. The whole collection impresses you as an average one in Suffolk-street would do. With no aims at historical composition worth noticing, portraits and landscapes hold the line. Amongst the former, the portrait of Eastlake, the President of the Royal Academy, stands conspicuous, as a carefully elaborated and characteristic likeness, which was duly appreciated at the Trafalgar-

square salon last year. A lady's head by the same painter (Huntingdon) is also of considerable merit.

Landscapes evidently are the forte of the rising American school. There is something very striking in the general novelty of the scenery, the totally different scale of harmony from which the British painters have made their own, which shows that, in landscape even, endless monotony of tone and subject might occasionally be departed from. That a little effort is necessary, the works of Durand seem to show: perhaps the effort in his compositions is a trifle too obvious. Eclecticism in matter as well as style, tends to give an over-drawn and unnatural character to otherwise meritorious works. Fancy the twelve cantos of "Paradise Lost" thrown into one pictorial illustration! The very thought is oppressive, and one feels that the dimensions of Bannard's last panorama of 12,000 feet would hardly suffice for its development: yet that is the complaint of Durand's fine picture of the "Progress of Civilisation." Not amenable to this charge, but a downright bold piece of scenic painting, is Cropsey's "Niagara Falls"—the best approach to the sublime we have seen of this volume of waters. Kenseth has some exquisitely mellow mountain scenes: his is a pleasant medley of Both and Ruysdael, whom he has studied without merging his originality in either. Pre-Raphaelitism finds its champion in Mr. Tait, whose "Hunting Party" closely reminds one of Hunt's later works. Evidently Ruskinism has in the future of American art a determinate stronghold.

A BURMESE DANCE.

A SCENE of peace from a seat of war may be an agreeable variety in our Illustrations of our contest with the Burmese.

The Engraving, from a sketch by a recent traveller, correctly represents the dresses and musical instruments, and the style of houses (built of wood) and the temples (of stucco) common in Burmah.

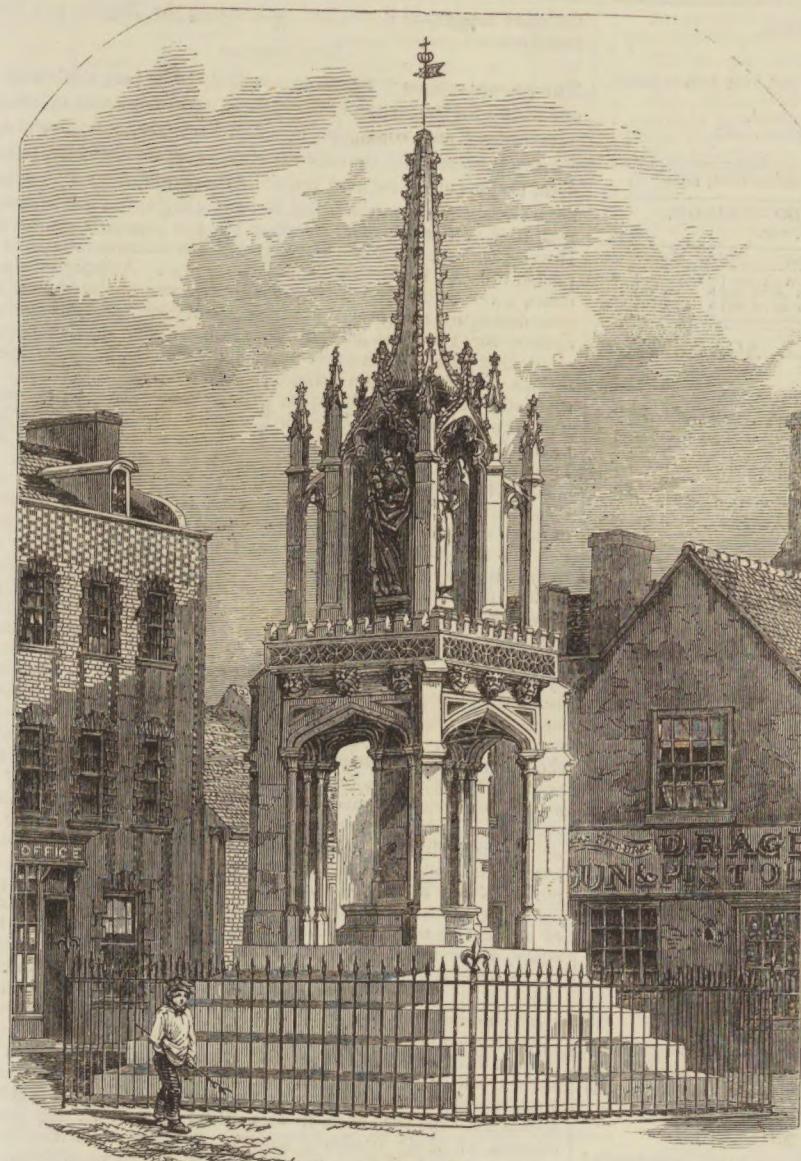
The dress of the women, consisting merely of a coloured silk handkerchief worn as a waist-cloth, exposes the leg as high as the knee when the wearer walks. The white jacket of the women is only worn by those that are married; and a simple scarf is folded across the breast by the unmarried. The hair, of glossy blackness, is never covered by cap or bonnet; and the women use a chattah (umbrella), of the Talipat palm.

The lower part of the dress of the men is always of silk, of gay and varied patterns, and is worn as shown in the Sketch. The jacket is of fine white cloth. The hair is dressed in a knot on the top of the head. Round the temples is worn a piece of book-muslin, of very fine quality, the arrangement of which occupies much of the time of those who are inclined to coxcombry. A singular custom prevails of wearing as an ear-ring, the box in which is contained the "pau," which they chew. The lower lobe of the ear is distended frightfully, so as to allow the insertion of the box, which unscrews in the middle for that purpose.

The musical instruments consist of banjo, drum, and triangle. The music is, to English ears, very monotonous. The mode of dancing, though quite suited to the natives of a hot country, where exertion is disliked, and activity in exercise unnecessary, is very peculiar. It consists of what we should call posturing—the men balancing themselves in extraordinary positions, with such contortions of the fingers, arms, and legs, as are most painful for an Englishman to witness. When any extraordinary feat is accomplished, the spectators express their approval by significant grunts, "ughs," "hahs," &c.



A BURMESE DANCE.—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.



LEIGHTON BUZZARD CROSS, RESTORED.

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, ANGELL-TOWN, NORTH BRIXTON.

This beautiful structure was consecrated on Saturday last, by the Bishop of Winchester, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, and upwards of twenty of the neighbouring clergy. The Bishop, attended by his chaplain, was received shortly before eleven o'clock, at the door of the church, by the Commissary, the Registrar, the clergy, and others attendant upon the occasion. The right rev. prelate immediately proceeded to the Communion-table, where a petition was presented praying for the consecration of the church. The petition having been read, the Bishop signified his consent, and commenced the consecration service by walking in procession down one of the aisles, and returning up the other aisle, attended by the Commissary and the clergy; the Bishop and clergy alternately repeating the 24th Psalm. After the usual prayers, the Bishop being seated, the Commissary read the sentence of consecration, which was signed by the Bishop, and ordered by him to be duly registered among the muniments of the Registry-office. The usual prayers for morning service were read by the Rev. Dr. Vaughan; after which an eloquent sermon was preached by the right rev. prelate. The sacred edifice was crowded in every part by a congregation who manifested great interest in the event.

The church is capable of holding 1150 persons, and has been built at the sole expense of William Stone, Esq., of the Casino, Herne-hill, on ground liberally granted by B. J. A. Angell, Esq., of Rumsey-house, near Calne, Wilts, who has also given the site for the parsonage-house, and for schools, and dwellings for the teachers, built on another part of this large estate, shortly to be entirely covered with houses. The cost of the church (designed by Mr. Ferrey) has been upwards of £5000. It is in the Perpendicular style: the plan consists of a lofty and massive west tower, with octangular pinnacles at the angles; there are a nave, north and south aisles, and a conspicuous north porch, chancel, and vestry.

The seating is entirely of oak; the paving of encaustic red and black tiles. The roofs are stained deal, and the spaces between the timbers tinted in azure colours. An organ remains to be provided.

The materials of the building are Kentish rag facing, variegated with Devonshire rag-stone in the ornamental parts; the dressings being of

mounted until recently by a wrought-iron vane, over which stood a cross and crown. Whether this formed part of the original structure is uncertain.

In the foundation-stone, which was deposited by Colonel Hanmer, is engraved the following inscription:—

LEIGHTON BUZZARD.

This ancient Gothic cross is said to have been erected A.D. 1350. Temp.

Edward III. A.D. 1620 it was repaired by a rate of fourpence levied upon each inhabitant, and it has since received several imperfect restorations.

At the present date, 1852, its very dilapidated state being much deplored, the Lord of the Manor, aided by some of the wealthier inhabitants of the town, raised the following liberal subscriptions:—

Colonel Hanmer, K.H., Lord of the Manor ..	£140 0 0	Mr. Joseph Proctor ..	£26 5 0
Mrs. Grant ..	52 10 0	Mr. C. Ridgway ..	26 5 0
Mr. Bassett ..	52 10 0	Mr. E. Lawford ..	26 5 0
Mr. F. Bassett ..	26 5 0	Total cost ..	350 0 0

Mr. W. Cox, Dunstable, Architect and Sculptor.

And it was restored to its former beauty and original state.

There has been an additional £75 subscribed for a new iron palisade by the Lord of the Manor and J. D. Bassett, Esq.

Mr. Cox, the architect, has faithfully carried out the design of the restoration. The figures of the old cross, which were in a very dilapidated condition, have been placed round the Market-house—a very excellent arrangement; and those on the present structure have been beautifully executed by Mr. Cox, who was also the sculptor of the Martyrs' Memorial at Oxford.

EXHIBITION OF CABINET WORK.—Four van-loads of highly valuable specimens for this Exhibition were removed last week from Windsor Castle to Gore House, Kensington. Besides the contributions of her Majesty, the Dukes of Hamilton, Buccleuch, Devonshire, and Northumberland, the Earls Spencer and Amherst, the Lords Willoughby d'Eresby and de l'Isle, Sir Anthony Rothschild, Mr. Charles Mills, Mr. C. B. Wall, M.P., Mr. H. Magniac, Mr. James Morrison, Mr. George Field, Mr. I. K. Brunel, Mr. E. Pownall, Mr. John Auldjo, Mr. J. Swabey, Mr. D. M. Davison, the Rev. M. Tayler, Mr. H. Farrer, and other gentlemen have liberally consented to lend valuable examples for public instruction in the

Bath stone. The contractors are Messrs. Holland, of Duke-street.

The ecclesiastical district of St. John's is detached from St. Matthew's, Brixton, the Incumbent of which (Dr. Vaughan) has given £1000 towards the several erections; and his son, the Rev. Matthew Vaughan, is the appointed minister of this new church.

As the name of the new town is one of much interest in the county of Surrey, we may be induced to refer to the subject in a subsequent Number.

RESTORATION OF
LEIGHTON BUZZARD CROSS.

AMONG the fine old market crosses which the wear of centuries has spared for the admiration of the lovers of art is the Cross at Leighton Buzzard, in Bedfordshire, supposed to be the work of five centuries since, at one of the best periods of our architecture. In this long interval time had, however, reduced the monument to a very dilapidated condition: this was a subject of much concern to the townspeople, who frequently expressed a wish for the restoration of the olden work; when Colonel Hanmer, of Stockgrove-house, having purchased the manor—held many years by the family of Lord Leigh—by his liberality, aided by several influential gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood, the restoration of the Cross was commenced in September last, and has lately been completed, under the direction of Mr. W. Cox, of Leighton.

From its architectural details, we may attribute this cross to the reign of Edward III. It consists of two stories, the lower covered with a stone groining, which, in its turn, forms the base of the second story. The tracery of this lower portion is remarkably good. It rests upon five buttresses, and a centre shaft, with small shafts and caps at the angles, internally; the cornice is charged with gargoyle and grotesque heads, and is surmounted by a pierced parapet, embattled.

The second story contains five statues, arranged in the following order:—Looking down the chief street of the town, and towards the parish church, you perceive the Virgin with the Child; on her right, a bishop, possibly the bishop of the diocese for the time being; on her left is a venerable crowned and bearded figure, whom we may conjecture to be King Edward III.; on the right of the bishop stands St. John the Baptist, with the Agnus Dei and a book; on the left of the king is Christ, having risen from the tomb.

The five outer buttresses are also affixed to the jambs by tracery work, forming flying buttresses at the angles. The centre of the cross is a large crocketed pinnacle, sur-

TESTIMONIAL TO COLONEL HIGGINS, R.A.

On Saturday last several influential Canadians, on a visit to England, in the name of the hon. the Mayor and citizens of Quebec, presented to Colonel Higgins a superb piece of plate, designed and manufactured by Messrs. Garrard, of the Haymarket, and bearing the following inscription:—



TESTIMONIAL PRESENTED TO COLONEL HIGGINS, R.A.

Presented to Colonel Gordon Higgins, Royal Artillery, by the Mayor and Councillors, the Magistrates, and the Citizens of Quebec, as a mark of their regard and esteem for one who, while holding the distinguished position of Commandant of the Garrison for a period of five years, evinced, in his frequent intercourse with them, public and social qualities which, eliciting their highest approbation, induced in all a feeling of respect for him as an officer and a gentleman.

Prior to Colonel Higgins quitting Quebec, he was presented by the Mayor, on behalf of the principal inhabitants, and in the presence of an influential meeting, with an address, expressive of their sincere regret at the termination of the gallant Colonel's period of service in Canada. To the address is attached the names of the Chief Justice of the Province, the Hon. Sir James Stuart, Bart., of other Judges, of some of the members of the Provincial Administration, of the principal merchants, and of some hundred other gentlemen. Colonel Higgins thanked the meeting for this distinguished honour; and the plate here engraved is the handsome testimonial of esteem, the presentation of which awaited the arrival of the gallant Colonel in England.

PARLIAMENTARY PORTRAITS.

MR. CHARLES GAVAN DUFFY, M.P. FOR NEW ROSS, IRELAND.

THE distinct personal interest attaching to Mr. Duffy's appearance in the Imperial Parliament, is peculiar and great. The man, who in 1852 was returned to serve in Parliament for the small but thoroughly independent borough of New Ross, Wexford, was, not five years ago, tried as a rebel—as the chief organiser in the partial Irish outbreak of that period against the English connection—and he has entered Parliament without, in any respect, having compromised or contradicted the convictions in conformity with which "Young Ireland" entered on



MR. CHARLES GAVAN DUFFY, M.P. FOR NEW ROSS.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY BEARD.

that final struggle, which resulted in the deportation, to Van Diemen's Land, of O'Brien, Meagher, and Mitchell; but in the acquittal (upon legal and constitutional grounds) of their friend, Mr. Duffy. Could a better evidence be referred to of the thorough "freedom" of the English Constitution? And beyond the personal interest there is now an extensive public interest. Mr. Duffy, as a member of Parliament, took his position in Imperial politics, as the representative of the "party of independence"—as the leader of the party, which not only all English politicians, but the governing classes of Ireland, regard as peculiarly impractical; and, as an isolated individual in the Legislature, there could, in his case, be none but the personal importance arising from the protests of a highly intellectual man, upon grounds which he could urge, as a foreigner, against the continuance of the English connection with Ireland. The recent confusion, however, thrown into Irish politics, by some utterly unexpected combinations, compels a new career for Mr. Duffy; and the probability would seem to be, that the "ex-rebel" will be the leader in the English House of Commons of the *par excellence* "Irish



NEW CHURCH OF ANGELL-TOWN, NORTH BRIXTON.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved the third reading of the Registration of Assurances Bill.

Lord ST. LEONARDS opposed the third reading, because he did not believe that the bill would carry out the objects for which it was intended; and the costs attendant upon such a measure would be enormous, and an additional burden upon the land.

Their Lordships having divided, the numbers were:—For the third reading: Contents, 57; Non-Contents, 29: majority, 28.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

The Select Committee on the Charitable Trusts Bill was nominated.

The Cathedral Appointments Bill passed through Committee.

Lord St. Leonards' three Lunacy Bills were severally read a third time and passed.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

The Lords' amendments to the Crystal Palace Company Bill and the Great Yarmouth Waterworks Bill were considered and agreed to.

In reply to a question from Sir J. Shelley, Mr. WILSON said the duty on clover and other small seeds would be reduced, but he could not at present say to what extent.

In answer to a question from Mr. J. B. Smith, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said the Government had not suspended the granting of annuities, except the usual suspension for a few days before and after every quarter.

Lord J. RUSSELL gave notice that he should oppose the issue of the Chatham writ; and would move for leave to bring in a bill to prevent persons in the dock-yards from voting at elections.

MR. DUFFY.

The SPEAKER called attention to the order of the day with respect to the words spoken by Mr. Duffy on the previous evening, and invited Mr. Duffy to explain.

Mr. DUFFY said that on the previous evening his desire to make an explanation was taken away from him by Lord J. Russell, who had asserted that he had made allegations one syllable of which he could not prove. What he really intended to have said was, that the same act of political profligacy which prevailed in the days of Walpole and the Pelhams had been exceeded by what had passed in that House under his own eyes, with respect to the Irish members who had abandoned their pledges, for reasons which he could only attribute to motives of personal advancement. If, in making this statement, he had violated any of the orders of the House, or the usual mode of conducting debates in that House, he regretted it.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, he understood the hon. gentleman in a very different sense on the previous evening, and he much doubted if the charge as it now stood was even disorderly, however undeserved might be the imputation it conveyed against the Irish members. He thought the matter should now be carried no further, and he, therefore, moved that the House should pass to the other orders of the day.

After a few words from Mr. J. BALL, the House passed to the other orders of the day.

WAYS AND MEANS.

The House then went into a Committee of Ways and Means, and Mr. BOUVERIE put the question in the midst of much noise and confusion.

Sir J. PAKINGTON asked what the question was?

Mr. FRENCH rose to address the Chair, when he was called to order, as the question had been already put. The hon. member put on his hat, and sitting down addressed the House, stating that Mr. Duffy was in possession.

A scene of excitement seemed about to ensue, when strangers were ordered to withdraw, and the galleries were immediately cleared.

The numbers were—For Mr. Lawless's amendment to exempt Ireland from the Income-tax, 61; against it, 286: majority, 225.

It would appear from what followed, that while strangers were absent a question was raised as to whether Mr. Bouverie should not have called upon Mr. Duffy to continue his arguments, in which he had been interrupted on the previous evening; and it was resolved that the House should resume in order to take the opinion of the Speaker upon the point.

The SPEAKER decided against the necessity of calling on Mr. Duffy to resume the debate.

The House then went again into committee; and in a short time a new scene took place, in which Captain Magan and Mr. Lawless were the chief actors; the former having said, when alluding to Mr. Lawless's amendment, "I, for one, sympathise with the wanderings of a guilty conscience."

Mr. LAWLESS moved that the words should be taken down.

Captain MAGAN having explained, Mr. Lawless withdrew his motion and the business proceeded.

Mr. J. D. FITZGERALD proposed an amendment, with the view of exempting trades and professions in Ireland from the operation of the Income-tax. He said that by the adoption of his amendment, the cost of the machinery required to carry the Act into operation in Ireland would be greatly diminished. The hon. and learned gentleman having alluded to a compact that was reported between the members of the "Irish Brigade" and the late ministers, that in the event of the latter returning to office, they would not extend the Income-tax to Ireland.

Sir J. PAKINGTON on the part of the late Government denied that there was any foundation for such a report.

After some discussion the amendment was withdrawn.

Mr. MITCHELL moved an amendment which would have the effect of exempting from the Income-tax the first £100 derivable from any profession, trade or vocation, and of charging upon every pound received beyond £100 and under £200 for two years from April 5, 1853, fivepence; for two years from April, 1855, fourpence; and for three years from April, 1857, threepence.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opposed the amendment, which was ultimately withdrawn.

The House then resumed; the Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit on Monday—Adjourned.

A Cabinet Council will be held at the Foreign-office this day (Saturday), at two o'clock.

THE CITY AND BARON ROTHSCHILD.—An influential meeting of the electors of London was held on Thursday, when it was unanimously resolved that Baron Rothschild should not be called upon to resign his seat, notwithstanding the unfavourable decision of the House of Lords. A committee was formed, to adopt such measures as may ensure the ultimate satisfactory solution of the Jewish Disabilities question, by placing Baron Rothschild in the seat to which he has been so repeatedly elected.

THE BUDGET IN IRELAND.—Upon the whole, the Budget of Mr. Gladstone has been very well received in Ireland, and less opposition to it expressed than was anticipated.

THE CAMBRIDGE ASYLUM.—Viscount Combermere will preside at the second annual general meeting of the Cambridge Asylum for Soldiers' Widows, to be held at the United Service Institution, Whitehall-yard, on Tuesday next.

DEATH OF LADY DALHOUSIE.—By the arrival off Falmouth yesterday (Friday) morning of the *Monarch*, from Calcutta, we learn the death of Lady Dalhousie, who was a passenger, on the 3rd instant, when off Land's End. The corpse was landed at Falmouth, and will be immediately conveyed to London. The gale of Sunday last produced such debility from sea-sickness, that her Ladyship sunk under it.

SALE OF THE REVERSIONARY ESTATES OF THE LATE T. L. HODGES, Esq., M.P.—The mansion of Hempstead Park and 4100 acres with a rent-roll of £3600 per annum, was brought to the hammer on Thursday. The estate was put up, subject to £30,000 charges. The biddings reached £50,000, when they were confined to three gentlemen, one of whom was Sir E. Bulwer Lytton. The price ultimately reached £60,400; and, upon its being found that it was for Mr. Hodges, a burst of applause followed from his numerous tenantry who were present. The reserve bidding was £49,000.

THE RIVAL RAILWAYS.—It is reported that the London and North-Western and Great Northern Railway Companies have come to a satisfactory arrangement, which will prevent any traffic competition in future. The comparative weekly traffics, compared with last year, show an increase last week of £316 on the former line, and £252 on the latter. Generally speaking, the last traffic returns are exceedingly good on all lines throughout the kingdom.

THE POTTERIES "FREE PRESS."—Mr. Truelove, who was fined for selling an unstamped newspaper, a short time since, on Thursday informed the Judge of the Middlesex Sessions, that an arrangement had been entered into to try the case in the Court of Exchequer; the Attorney-General, on the part of the Government, having kindly acceded to that proposition.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—PARIS, THURSDAY EVENING.—This being Ascension-day, and a close holiday, the Bourse has been closed.

A funeral service was performed at the Invalides on Wednesday, for the repose of the soul of the Emperor; and another in the Imperial Chapel in the Tuilleries, which was attended by Louis Napoleon, the Princess Mathilde, Princes Napoleon and Lucien, &c. The Empress was absent, being still confined to her apartment.

The Emperor on Wednesday gave a private audience to M. Eugène Scribe, who called the attention of his Majesty to the clauses of the bill which cancels the rights of dramatic authors and composers twenty years after their death, and solicited the Emperor to prolong that period.

HANOVER.—The question of constitutional reform has been again discussed in the Second Hanoverian Chamber, when the proposition that the subject should be referred to a new committee was negatived by a majority of two votes.

POLAND.—The Administrative Council of the kingdom of Poland has decreed the confiscation of the property of those political refugees who have not thought proper to take advantage of the amnesty which the Emperor has granted to them.

ITALY.—The Government of Rome has decreed the withdrawal of the present paper currency within the current year, without loss or inconvenience to the holders of such notes.

Marshal Radetzky has modified the rigorous state of siege to which Milan was subjected since the 6th of February last.

SWITZERLAND.—A telegraphic despatch from Berne, of the 3rd, says:—"The Federal Council yesterday signified its disapprobation of the reply made to Austria, relative to the religious seminaries, by which the rights of Ticino are reserved."

According to the new *Zurich Gazette*, it was the Liberal candidate, Mr. Franschbord, who was elected by 3000 votes—his competitor, M. Vuilleret, having only obtained 1500.

SPAIN.—Our accounts from Madrid are of the 30th ult. M. Bermudez de Castro had appointed M. Manuel Lopez Director General of the Accounts, and M. Bazzanella Director of the Estancadas in the same department. All the rumours of the Ministerial crisis had completely ceased.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MAY 6th.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer.		Mean Tempera- ture of the Day.	Departure of Tempera- ture from Average.	Degree of Hu- midity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
		Highest Reading	Lowest Reading					
April 29	29.608	54°9	43°2	44°0	— 5°9	95	E.	0.32
" 30	29.669	64°0	38°8	50°2	— 0°1	70	—	0.00
May 1	29.886	70°9	37°6	54°9	+ 4°1	55	—	0.00
" 2	29.831	65°0	43°4	52°8	+ 1°7	78	E.	0.00
" 3	29.725	58°5	48°1	50°4	— 1°1	99	VAR.	0.52
" 4	30.048	57°1	49°6	50°9	— 0°8	95	E.	0.10
" 5	30.128	63°6	40°2	51°3	— 0°7	68	E.	0.00

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average, and the sign + above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer increased from 29.66 inches at the beginning of the week to 29.96 inches by 9h. a.m. on May 1st; decreased to 29.79 inches by 9h. a.m. on the 3rd, and increased to 30.20 inches by the end of the week. The mean reading for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.842 inches. The mean daily temperature has varied during the week from 6° below, on April 29th, to 4° above its average on May 1st. The mean temperature of the week was 50°6° being 0°4° below the average of thirty-eight years. The main daily range of temperature during the week was 19°. The range of temperature during the week was 33°, the highest reading 70°9°, and the lowest 37°6°, both occurring on the same day. Rain fell during the week to the depth of rather more than nine-tenths of an inch. The mean reading of the barometer for the month of April, at the level of the sea, was 29.634 inches. The mean temperature of the air was 45°, being 0°6° below the average of thirty-eight years. The mean temperature of the dew point was 38°9°. The mean degree of humidity was 78; complete saturation being represented by 100. The mean daily range of temperature was 15°. And rain fell to the depth of 3.4 inches.

Lewisham, May 6th, 1853.

JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—In the week ending April 30, the births of 1622 children were registered in the metropolitan districts: of these, 852 were boys, and 770 were girls. In the eight corresponding weeks of 1845-52, the average number was 1446. Respecting the deaths, the Registrar-General observes, that it is gratifying to observe a decided improvement in the public health. In the first three weeks of April, the deaths in London were—1240, 1243, 1182; in the last week of the month the diminution is considerable, the number being 1089. In the ten corresponding weeks of 1843-52, the average number of deaths was 930; which, if raised in a certain proportion, according to increase of population, becomes 1023. The excess of mortality in last week, above the estimated amount, is, therefore, 66—a result which is much more favourable than any of these returns have yielded since the cold weather set in. In January the deaths were about 1000 weekly; since that time they have ranged from 1260 to 1500. In the past week, 227 deaths are referred to zymotic diseases: of these 67 are whooping-cough, and 41 typhus. To dropsy, &c. 46. To tubercular diseases, 222—still 31 above their average: 151 of these were consumption. To diseases of the brain, &c., 117. To diseases of the heart, 50. To those of the lungs, &c., 208: of these, 100 were bronchitis, and 75 pneumonia. To diseases of the stomach, &c., 60; and 24 to violence, &c. From these particulars, as compared with previous returns, it will be seen that fatal cases arising from diseases of the respiratory organs, have declined in the last two weeks from 242 to 206: those from zymotic diseases differ little in the general results. Typhus is on the decline. The Registrar-General remarks, speaking of meteorological observations, that it is difficult to over-rate the value which these observations possess and will acquire—as the diseases of men, the crops of the agriculturists, as well as the health of their herds, and many manufacturing processes, depend on the state of the weather to an extent which has not yet been determined. That this is the case, our own observations, published in this paper during the past quarter, have abundantly proved.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS AND ANNIVERSARIES.—On Friday week, the Zoological Society, at the offices, in Hanover-square.—On Saturday, the London University College, in the Lecture-room, Gower-street.—On Monday, the Home and Colonial School Society, at the Institution, Gray's-inn-road; the Wesleyan Missionary Society, at Exeter-hall; and the Naval and Military Bible Society, at Willis's Rooms.—On Tuesday, the Literary Association of the Friends of Poland, at the Sussex Chambers.—On Wednesday, the British and Foreign Bible Society, in Exeter-hall; the Medical Benevolent College, in Freemasons' Tavern (upwards of £7000 subscribed); the King's College Hospital, at the Albion Tavern; the Middlesex Hospital School of Medicine, in the hospital; the University of London, in the large hall of King's College; the St. Paul's School, in the school, St. Paul's-churchyard; the Wykehamists, at Willis's Rooms; the Evening Classes for Young Men in London, in the London Tavern.—On Thursday, the Society for the Preservation of Life from Shipwreck, at their offices, John-street, Adelphi (Captain Saumarez, R.N., in the chair).—The Sunday-school Union 150th anniversary, at Exeter-hall.—On Friday, the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Society, at Willis's Rooms.

THE SUBMARINE AND EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH COMPANIES have laid down their wires from the central hall of the House of Commons into several of the clubs in Pall-mall, securing to each of these establishments a distinct and private communication with the Houses of Parliament, as well as the additional facility of a direct communication with the Continent.

FORGERY.—At the Mansion-house, on Thursday, a well-dressed young man, who refused to give his name, was examined, relative to having uttered a forged check on Barnet, Hoare, and Co., and thereby obtaining £500. The check was filled up with great skill in the name of Whitbread and Co.; and, on getting eight £100 notes and fifty sovereigns for it, the prisoner left. In five or six minutes the forgery was detected; and the necessary steps taken, and notice sent to the Bank of England, where the prisoner was a little too late in visiting for changing the notes for gold, and for which he had provided himself with canvas bags; and, upon applying for the change, he was told that his presence was requested in another office, in consequence of some error. Upon finding that a discovery had been made, he ran away, but was stopped by Michael Haydon, the officer, who, perceiving that he had the disguise of false hair, quickly unwigged and unwhiskered him, and brought him to the Mansion-house. The money, of course, is quite safe; and the prisoner, who still refused his name, observed "I don't wish to say anything at all," was remanded.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

JAMES ROCHE, ESQ., OF CORK.

THIS learned writer, the "J. R." of the literary world, and the author of "Recollections of an Octogenarian," died at Cork on the 1st ult. Mr. Roche was gifted with an extraordinary memory, which, combined with his constant habit of reading, enabled him to

THE UNITED STATES EXPEDITION TO JAPAN.

THE presence of a large and powerful American fleet in the Eastern Seas possesses an unexpected interest at the present moment, in consequence of the intestine convulsions which endanger the throne of the present Emperor of China, and the probability that he may solicit on his behalf the intervention of any civilised foreign power which may be able to render him assistance against the successful rebels, who are defeating his troops and ravaging a large portion of his empire. Some account of the vessels composing the American Expedition to Japan, and of its gallant Commander-in-Chief, cannot, therefore, fail to be interesting to our readers.

The Japan expedition was several times on the point of sailing before its actual departure; but first, the dispute about the North American fisheries; secondly, the Lobos Islands affair; and, more recently, the Cuban difficulties, each in its turn interrupted the course of this enterprise. The rumour that President Pierce had given orders to recall the expedition has recently been positively contradicted. The squadron, as originally intended by the late Administration, to be placed under the command of Commodore M. C. Perry, as the Commander-in-Chief of the United States naval force in the East and China Seas, and with a view to his contemplated visit to Japan, consisted of the following vessels:—One ship of the line, the *Vermont*, 74; frigate *Macedonian*, 36; three steam-frigates—the *Mississippi*, Commodore Perry's flag-ship (of which fine vessel we give an Engraving), 10; the *Susquehanna*, 8; and the *Pocahontas*, 6; one first-class steamer, the *Allegany*, 2; five sloops of war—the *Saratoga*, 20; *Plymouth*, 20; *Vandalia*, 20; *Vincennes*, 20; and *St. Mary's*, 22: to be accompanied by a surveying ship, the *Porpoise*, 10; and three store ships—*Supply*, 4; *Southampton*, 4; *Talbot*, 4. Total sailing vessels, 11; steamers, 4. Total number of vessels composing the squadron, 15. Total guns, 260. Officers, seamen, and marines, 4000.

This force, with the exception of the *Vermont*, 74, the *Macedonia*, 36, and the *Allegany* steamer, is now assembling at Macao. The *Vermont* is ready to receive her crew; but, while the Board of Admiralty at Whitehall are constrained to admit the prevalence of desertions in the British navy, the difficulty in obtaining seamen is equally felt in the United States navy, in consequence of the temptations offered to seamen by the high rate of wages in the merchant service. Such is, indeed, the condition of the recruiting service, that it is impossible to say when, if at all, a crew of 600 men can be collected for the *Vermont*. Besides this, the number of men of all classes employed in the naval service of the United States having been limited by law to the small number of 7500, and Congress having failed at its last session to grant to the navy department the authority which it asked to enlarge the number, the withdrawal of the *Vermont* from Commodore Perry's squadron has become unavoidable. The *Allegany* is now in the hands of the mechanics; but the delay in preparing her for sea will also probably render her services unavailable for the expedition. This, however, will not interfere with the contemplated visit of Commodore Perry to Japan; and it is said that, even with these reductions, a more efficient and powerful fleet never sailed from the American coast; although the vessels as originally proposed, carried but 260 guns. The strength of the expedition is not to be measured by that number. Every English sailor knows that American men-of-war carry more weight of metal to their size and tonnage than those of any other nation. Several of the vessels carry 10-inch shells, weighing 100 lb.; others 10-inch solid shot, weighing 125 lb.; others 11-inch shells, weighing 125 lb. The Americans affirm that no fleet carrying the same number of guns, or even of the same tonnage, has ever yet floated capable of producing such destructive results.

It is said that the expedition has not sailed with any hostile intentions towards the Japanese Government or people, and that it is not contemplated to use any force. But causes of quarrel are not wanting. The Japanese have barbarously seized American sailors, who have been shipwrecked upon their coast, and have confined them in cages. Commodore Perry will call the Government of Japan to account for these outrages. The Americans say that since Japan condescends neither to give reasons for what she has done, nor to apologise for it, it is necessary to ask her attention to the business in a way she will not be likely to refuse. So the expedition goes to "coerce the Government of Japan into civil-



COMMODORE MATTHEW C. PERRY, COMMANDER OF THE UNITED STATES EXPEDITION TO JAPAN.
FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY MEADE, BROTHERS, NEW YORK.

sation," and if she will not consent to negotiate with a nation whose subjects she has treated with barbarity, she is to be taught a lesson of humanity, and "be made to wheel into the ranks of civilised empires."

Among the subordinate results of the expedition will be the establishment of a coal dépôt upon the Japan coast; nor will the promotion of scientific objects be forgotten, unless more stirring occupation should intervene. Lord Wrottesley, in his speech in the House of Lords last week, bore cordial and generous testimony to the characteristic vigour and activity with which the Americans are labouring in the field of science; and the Japanese expedition is likely to bear rich fruit, if the Japanese accept the olive-branch which Commodore Perry will hold out to them. A squadron, under the command of Captain Ringold, will make a survey of the Chinese and Japanese Seas, and will, indeed, delineate the Asiatic coast up as far even as Behring's Straits. It is stated that, although Captain Ringold's corps of engineers and scientific men will contribute all they can to the knowledge of mankind by these explorations, his squadron will be within the call of Commodore Perry in the event of hostilities with the Japanese.

We conclude with some biographical details of Commodore Perry:—

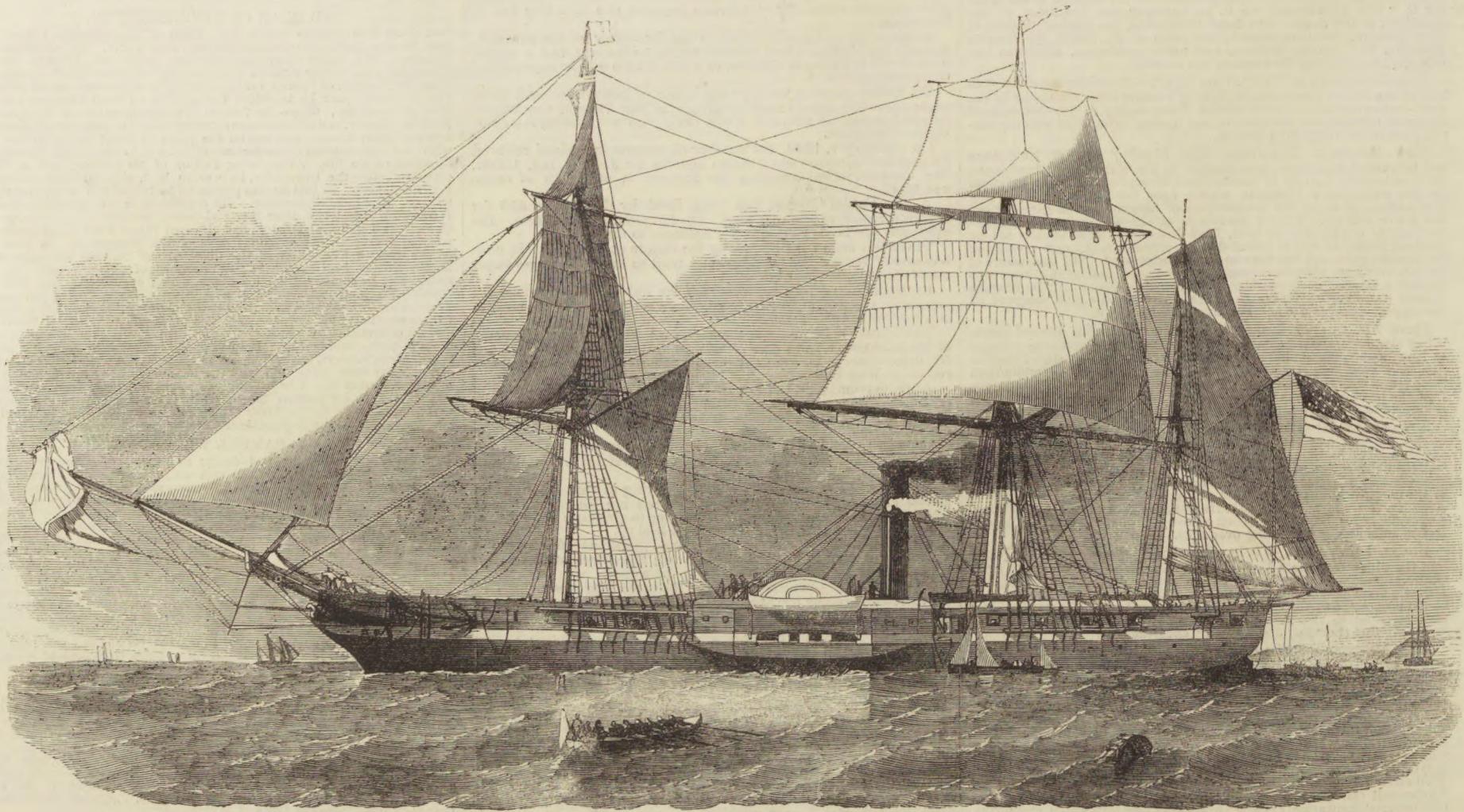
Commodore Matthew C. Perry is a brother of the late Commodore Oliver Perry, whose fame is inseparably connected with the achievements of the American Navy on the Lakes, during the last war with Britain. He was born in Rhode Island, from whence he entered the naval service of the United States, as a midshipman, on the 18th of Jan., 1809; since which time he has seen more active service than almost any of his compeers. On receiving his warrant, he joined the schooner *Revenge*. He was shortly afterwards ordered to the frigate *President*. In November, 1813, he was transferred to the frigate *United States*; and in April, 1814, was again sent to the frigate *President*. On the 15th December, 1814, he was ordered to the brig *Chippewa*; after which he was transferred to the Navy-yard at New York, with the rank of Lieutenant. In the course of the active service above enumerated, as a Midshipman and Lieutenant, the gallant Perry participated in all the stirring events in which the vessels named were engaged, when he was in them, during the war with Britain; discharging his arduous duties with intelligence and intrepidity, and laying the foundation for the high reputation as an officer and gentleman which he has acquired in after years.

In August, 1819, he was ordered to join the ship *Cyane*; and in May, 1821, he was honoured with his first command, of the schooner *Shark*, as Lieutenant-Commanding. His next tour of duty was on board the ship of the line *North Carolina*, of which noble craft he was the First Lieutenant. Being promoted to the rank of a Master Commandant in 1830, he was immediately ordered to the command of the ship *Concord*, wherein he made a cruise of two years and seven months, for the most part in the Mediterranean. On his return to the United States, in January, 1838, he was transferred to the New York Navy Yard, and served there as second in command, as Master Commandant; after which, being promoted to the rank of a Captain on the 9th of February, 1837, he was transferred to the command of the steamer *Fulton*. In 1840 he took command of the steamer *Missouri*. In June, 1841, Captain Perry was ordered to the command of the New York Navy Yard, and remained until the treaty for the suppression of the Slave-trade made it necessary, in 1843, to despatch a United States squadron to the coast of Africa, of which he was placed in command. After serving a long tour of duty on that disagreeable and dangerous station, in 1846 Captain Perry was despatched to New York, on "special service," where he superintended the construction of Government docks and steamers. In March, 1847, he received the command of the home squadron, joining it in time to win imperishable renown, while rendering important services on the coast of Mexico. In November, 1848, Commodore Perry was detached from that squadron, and ordered to New York, as the General Superintendent, on the part of the Navy, of the construction of the Ocean Mail-Steamer Squadron. In this position he remained until March, 1852, when he was ordered to the command of the Japan expedition, on which duty he is now absent.

In his late annual report, the Secretary of the Navy thus alludes to Commodore Perry:—

The opening of Japan has become a necessity, and by every owner of an American whale-ship, and every voyager between California and China. This important duty has been consigned to the commanding officer of the East India squadron; a gentleman in every respect worthy of the trust reposed in him, and who contributes to its administration the highest energy and ability, improved by long and various service in his profession.

In the course of this long, active, and varied service, Commodore Perry has not only widely distinguished himself by a display of gallantry and seamanlike conduct on all occasions, but he has given evidence of varied talents and attainments, such as have rendered his connection with the service of extraordinary benefit to his country; more especially in perfecting many of the improvements in the United States Navy, which experience and the progress of the naval science have rendered necessary. Activity, energy, and quickness of apprehension are the traits of character which, distinguishing Commodore Perry above most of his compeers in the service, have enabled him to outstrip almost all of them in the amount and the variety of public duties it has been his lot to perform.



THE STEAM-FRIGATE "MISSISSIPPI," UNITED STATES NAVY.



SHAKSPEAREAN COMMEMORATION, AT STRATFORD-UPON-AVON.—THE ORATION AT THE CHURCH-GATE.

OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE BAZAAR, IN MANCHESTER.

THIS Bazaar was opened on Tuesday, the 26th ult., and closed on the following Friday; and the result far surpassed the most sanguine expectations of all who contributed to the demonstration. Its success was, in fact, complete and brilliant; and proved the deep and general interest felt in the movement to lift from the heart-communings of the sea-divided families of the British empire, and other lands, that grievous tax and impediment imposed upon it by the present high rates of ocean postage. The "Ladies' Olive Leaf Societies," formed for disseminating the ideas of peace and goodwill among the populations of Christendom, with the help of friends they won to the work, supplied the articles for the Bazaar. And these came up in boundless variety from almost every part of the United Kingdom; the work of a thousand busy fingers, plied with delicate taste and skill. And the place for this display was most fitting the large room in the Manchester Exchange, perhaps the most important focus-point of commercial intercourse in the world. The hall was gracefully and admirably decorated; and the two parallel rows of stalls, extending nearly the whole length of the room, were arched and embellished with exquisite taste, presenting throughout the four days' sale most picturesque object for the eye to dwell upon. The ladies who attended the stalls were chiefly members of "Olive Leaf Societies," in Lancashire. One came all the way from Plymouth to superintend the sale of articles contributed in that town. Another was present from Chatham, Kent; and one from London. The ladies of Manchester were indefatigable, and entered into the work with an animation and earnest zeal that seemed to increase in vivacity to the last. One, who had a brother or sister in Africa, and twenty cousins in Australia, furnished a splendid stall, chiefly from articles wrought in her own house by herself and a skilful milliner employed to assist her for a week or ten days. At this stall alone more than £100 were taken.

The hall was well filled with visitors; frequently being excessively crowded for several hours at a time. The receipts at the door for admission the first day amounted to over £60, although the charge was 2s. 6d. per ticket. Nearly the whole stock of articles was sold without recourse to auction. The gross amount received exceeded £1000, which, after all expenses are deducted, will supply the means of agitating the question of Ocean Penny Postage until the boon shall be fully realised to mankind. And the joy and gladness which it will bring to the hearts and homes of millions, will be a rich reward to those benevolent ladies whose gentle and social activities, taste, and skill, stocked the Bazaar in Manchester.

COMMEMORATION OF THE BIRTH OF SHAKSPEARE.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY (April 23) is held to be the day on which Shakespeare was born, at Stratford-upon-Avon, A.D. 1564. Some uncertainty prevails as to the above being the actual date of the Poet's birth; and the feeling that an event so closely associated with the glory of England should be celebrated upon the day of her patron Saint may possibly have led to this adoption. The town of Stratford and its inhabitants, it has been truly said, have rested on Shakespeare and his fame for more than two centuries; and we regret that, in return, they have done so little to hallow his memory. There have been various "Commemorations" of the Poet's birth, it is true; but, as far as Stratford is concerned, they have been for its self; and when, a few years since, the natal house in Henley-street was about to be taken down, it required an appeal to the world to save it from destruction. The memory of Shakespeare is, however, about to confer still another benefit upon Stratford; for, we agree with a writer in the *Birmingham Journal*, that had it not been for the birth of Shakespeare in Henley-street, we very much question whether, in this said Parliamentary session of 1853, a bill would have been before the House of Commons for bringing the town of Stratford into connection with the great trunk lines of railway which now stretch from one end of the land to the other. In the prospectus, the circumstance which has made Stratford the Mecca and the Jerusalem of all who speak the English tongue, was dwelt upon as the only guarantee for the success of the scheme which required to be mentioned; so that in the middle of this money-loving nineteenth century Shakespeare may be considered as "patron" and originator of the project for giving his native town a railway.

But, the course of "Commemorations" at Stratford "never did run smooth;" and this year has added its proof. It appears that a number of Birmingham gentlemen made arrangements for a "pilgrimage" to the birth-place and the grave; to be followed by two concerts, a series of orations, and a dinner in the evening. Unfortunately, in doing so, they did not think proper to consult the influential residents of Stratford-on-Avon and its neighbourhood, who have been accustomed to celebrate the event by a dinner at the Town-hall. The consequence was that these gentlemen took no part in the more attractive programme, but simply dined together on the 23rd, under the presidency of William Judd Harding, Esq. The other party, not deeming Saturday a suitable day for demonstration of the nature intended, fixed it for Tuesday the 26th April, the day on which Shakespeare was baptised, and the earliest

well-ascertained date of his existence. The weather was bright and smiling, but not so the Stratford people, who held aloof from the celebration, and there was no public reception of the visitors. The omnibuses containing the "pilgrims" did not arrive at Stratford until eleven o'clock in the forenoon, and it was twelve o'clock before the "pilgrimage" commenced at the One Elm, near the town, from whence the procession arrived in due time at the house in which Shakespeare was born, and into which they entered. In about ten minutes Mr. George Linnæus Banks ascended a temporary platform in front of the ancient abode of Shakespeare, and delivered an oration on his genius, addressing the assembly as "men of Warwickshire," and very properly rebuking the apathy of the townspeople.

The procession then walked to the church of the Holy Trinity, accompanied by a considerable concourse. On the arrival of the multitude at the church doors, "the sordid spirit" was fully exhibited in the form of a placard, in large letters, stating that a gratuity would be expected for the clerk. Great numbers applied for admission, and it may be presumed that the clerk (or "money-changer," as he ought to be called), profited considerably by this "order of the day." The homage of the pilgrims being duly paid to the poet's tomb, they proceeded to the roadside

adjacent to the principal graveyard, where, on a platform, Mr. James Bennett, tragedian, of the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, delivered with much effect, some extracts from an ode composed for the occasion, by Mr. Ouseley, of Shrewsbury, entitled "The Grave of Shakespeare," and commencing thus:—

Speak not!—scarce utter breath;—this hallowed spot
Entombs the dust of one whose world-wide fame
Crowns him the master spirit of all time
Here "gentle Shakespeare" sleeps. Within these walls,
Cramped in a little space, the mouldering form
That gave to thought a substance, and portrayed
Visions of beauty ne'er before conceived,—
Enshrined here lies.

The illustration shows this impressive scene, with a portion of the beautiful lime-covered walk. This was followed by the chanting of Shakespeare's magnificent peroration from "The Tempest"—

"The cloud-capp'd towers."

The chanting was given with much effect, and, for the occasion, was peculiarly appropriate. It was performed by Messrs. Savage, Fellows



"OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE" BAZAAR, AT MANCHESTER.

Halliley, Matthisen, Morley, Heritage, Taylor, Bickley, and Stilliard. These objects of the "pilgrimage" being attained, the procession moved to the centre of the town, followed by a large crowd.

The next object of attraction was the grand musical festival, held in the Shakespeare Rooms, which was very well attended; the principal artists being Mrs. Bull, Miss Wight, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. F. Mori, Mr. Glydon, and Mr. Izon. In the course of the proceedings, Mr. Vandenhoff, the tragedian, delivered an oration on the genius of Shakespeare, in which he read the death-scene of *Cardinal Beaufort*. The performances were highly satisfactory, and constituted a very suitable portion of the commemoration.

The festivities concluded with a public dinner held in the Town-hall, and which was ably presided over by Mr. B. Webster, late lessee of the Haymarket Theatre.

After the festival, Mr. George Linnaeus Banks presented a pair of small and elegant library bellows to several gentlemen, who had contributed their assistance to the festival; as well as to one of the artists of this Journal. The value of the gift consists in the wood with which the bellows are formed being selected from an aged elm tree, under which the principal affairs of Stratford-on-Avon were formerly conducted. A gentleman of fortune gave a very high price for this ancient relic, intending to have some articles of furniture made from it. He died before he could fulfil his desire, and Mr. J. C. Onions, of Birmingham, purchased the wood, and made from it these memorials, which he kindly gave to Mr. Banks for presentation.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY, APRIL 29.

JEWISH DISABILITIES BILL.

The Earl of ABERDEEN, in moving the second reading of the Jewish Disabilities Bill, frankly admitted that his former opinions against the present bill were founded on a remnant of that old feeling against the Jewish race which at one time prevailed so strongly all over Europe. The principle established by the legislation of recent times was, that religious truth or religious error should not be the test of qualification for civil rights; and the political emancipation of the Jews was all that was now wanting to complete our civil liberty. The noble Earl emphatically warned their Lordships of the danger of a serious collision with the House of Commons, if they went on year after year refusing the just demands of the House of Commons in a matter in which their own body and composition were essentially concerned.

The Earl of SHAFESBURY moved that the bill be read a third time that day six months. In resisting these demands, he denied that he ought to be regarded as an enemy to the Jewish people. All personal antipathy had long since ceased. He respected them; he remembered their past, he contemplated their future. He saw them to be now under a cloud, but hereafter to be the sovereign family of the human race.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE said it was not argument, but prejudice that hindered the Jews from obtaining admission into Parliament; and this prejudice would soon die away, as the prejudice against Scotchmen had died away. The treatment of the Jews was not a bad test of the enlightenment of a country. Spain, Portugal, Russia, and the Pope oppressed the Jews; but in France for forty-five years, and in Holland for two hundred and fifty years, they had been admitted to a perfect equality of privileges with their fellow-subjects.

The Earl of DARNLEY and the Earl of WINCHILSEA opposed the bill. The Archbishop of DUBLIN refused to discuss this measure as a benefit to the Jews. He regarded it rather as a bill for the relief of the electors, in enabling them to return whom they pleased. He was not anxious to send Jews into Parliament, but he wished to see the restrictions removed from Christians, so that they might have liberty to elect those whom they thought fit. He was dissatisfied that declarations were required at all of members of Parliament. He wished to see all religious disabilities, of whatever kind they might be, swept away altogether.

The Bishop of SALISBURY declared that, if this bill passed, the Christian character of the country would be impaired, if not destroyed. The Bishop of ST. DAVID'S, on the contrary, asked what there was in the religion professed by a portion of her Majesty's subjects, which ought to disqualify from the faithful discharge of the duties of a representative in Parliament. The phrase of unchristianising the Legislature was an excellent cry, but it conveyed no notion whatever. A Christian Legislature was not necessarily a Legislature in which none but Christians were admitted. A Christian Legislature might be one which represented the constituencies of a Christian country, which was not only as good as the other, but much better. Suppose the bill should pass, and not a single Jew thereafter should enter the House of Commons. Would the Legislature in that case be unchristianised?

The Earl of HARROWBY opposed the second reading, not because he was afraid of the numbers of the Jews, but because he believed that while the bill would be extremely injurious to the religious feelings of the people of this country, it would not confer any adequate advantage on those who were the special objects of it. The people of this country might find a sufficient number of persons to represent them without choosing among the 8000 or 10,000 Jews scattered over the country, who, in respect to property, were eligible to become members of the Legislature.

The Duke of ARGYLL supported the bill. Lord BROUGHAM, who said he spoke under the pressure of illness, supported the bill. He bore testimony to the liberality of the Jews in supporting the charities of the metropolis.

The House divided—

Content (present)	69
Proxies	46
	—115
Not-Content (present)	96
Proxies	68
	—164

Majority against the bill —49

Their Lordships adjourned at a quarter to ten o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY, APRIL 20.

A discussion of some warmth took place between Sir J. Walmsley, Mr. Bright, and Lord Palmerston, on the subject of the seizure of warlike stores at Rotherhithe, and the employment of police to watch the residence of M. Kossuth, and other political refugees. Mr. BRIGHT called upon the noble Lord to say that he had no evidence to connect Kossuth with the making of the warlike stores. But Lord PALMERSTON declined to answer a question which he said no man had a right to put to him, and which it would be contrary to his duty to answer, as a judicial inquiry was now pending.

Mr. COBDEN denounced in strong terms the system of police watching.

THE BUDGET.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee of Ways and Means, the debate upon the resolution for granting an Income-tax, and Sir B. Lyton's amendment, was resumed by Mr. MOORE, who said that Ireland was sufficiently taxed. Mr. J. M'GREGOR said that Ireland ought to be grateful for the benefits derived from the Income-tax, seeing how it had enabled England to assist her upon the failure of the potato crop. He regarded the Budget as the most important and valuable proposition that had been submitted to the House since Sir R. Peel repealed the Corn-laws. He believed that the Budget would be much more productive than the Chancellor of the Exchequer had calculated. Col. Harcourt, Mr. H. Herbert, Mr. C. Forster, and Mr. P. Urquhart supported the Budget; which was opposed by Mr. C. R. Morgan, Lord A. Vane, Lord Jocelyn, and Mr. Cairns. Mr. CARDWELL said, that having held a subordinate situation at the Treasury in 1845, under Sir R. Peel, he knew from personal experience that that lamented statesman most carefully examined the possibility of extending alleviation to the professional classes; and that he had determined that, without breaking up and destroying the Income-tax, it was impossible for him to accomplish that task. He shewed with much force the large remissions of taxation upon articles of consumption which the Income-tax had enabled the Government to propose, and the tendency on the part of the revenue to recover itself by the increased consumption. The result of the taxation which Great Britain had borne for ten years, and from which Ireland had been wholly exempted, was that prohibitory duties had been entirely repealed, protective duties had been abolished, articles of first necessity had been relieved from duty, the raw materials of industry had been freed from taxation, trade had been stimulated, industry had been excited and encouraged, and large and general prosperity had been the result. Had Ireland derived no share of these advantages? Pre-eminently she had. He called upon the House to give its cordial assent to a measure replete with comfort and happiness to the people. Mr. HENLEY protested against no attempt being made to mitigate the in-

equalities of the Income-tax at a moment when it was proposed to re-enact it for seven years. Because full justice could not be done should there be none at all? Mr. CAIRNS showed that the Legacy-duty would operate upon a vast amount of property, including settlements of personal as well as of real property. The most skilful and competent judges said it was perfectly idle to suppose that the amount would be limited to £2,000,000; he believed that the Legacy-duty would produce at least £4,000,000.

The debate was then adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

The subject of internal improvements and public works in India was again the subject of discussion, upon the presentation of a petition by Lord WHARNCLIFFE from the corporation of cutlers at Sheffield. The disgraceful state of the roads and canals; and the neglect of providing means of irrigation; the absence of bridges; and the cheapness of labour, which rendered it possible to construct public works at a small expense, were in turn dilated on by the noble Lord and Lord ELLENBOROUGH, who energetically supported the prayer of the petition. The latter noble Lord developed a scheme for providing funds for internal improvements in India, viz., by converting East India Stock into Three per Cent. Stock, at a small premium upon the present market value of India Stock. The difference of interest, by pledging the credit of this country, would provide a fund of £200,000 per annum, which should be devoted for works of improvement within the Presidencies, in proportion to the gross revenues of those Governments. Earl GRANVILLE said he considered immediate and great changes were necessary in the Government of India.

On the motion of the Earl of ABERDEEN, their Lordships agreed to concur in an address presented by the House of Commons for a commission to inquire into corrupt practices at elections for the borough of Cambridge.

The South Sea Annuities Commutation Bill passed through committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

THE BUDGET.

The adjourned debate upon the re-imposition of the Income-tax was resumed to-night by Sir W. CLAY, who declared that the entire metropolis was decidedly in favour of the financial scheme of the Government, and that its rejection would cause the deepest regret, not only throughout the metropolis, but in all the great towns of the kingdom.

Sir F. KELLY at great length opposed the scheme, as inflicting an intolerable burden upon the already overburdened landed interest.

Mr. LOWE argued that it was perfectly impossible to graduate the Income-tax so as to obtain impartial justice in its assessment.

Mr. BUTT saw no rational hope of being relieved from the Income-tax in 1860. He protested against a proposal to continue the tax for seven years, without any attempt being made to remedy its injustice. Ireland had passed through a great crisis, and was overtaxed already, and it was not fair at such a time to impose an Income-tax upon her.

Mr. SERJEANT MURPHY deemed the extension of the Income-tax to Ireland to be a measure of inevitable necessity, and as such accepted it.

Mr. CONOLLY declared that Ireland already paid her fair share of taxation, and that she had not sufficiently recovered from her depression to enable her to pay the Income-tax.

Mr. E. B. ROCHE regarded indirect taxation upon the necessities of life as much more unjust and unequal than the Income-tax. A tax on tea or sugar, or any other necessary, which fell heavily on the poor man and lightly on the rich man, was much more unjust than the Income-tax. Ireland would benefit much more by the relief from the payment of the Consolidated Annuities, than she would suffer by the imposition of the Income-tax. He would give the Budget his support, because he believed it to be a Budget for the working classes.

Mr. DISRAELI addressed the Committee at great length against the financial scheme of the Government. He said the late Government wished to re-impose the Income-tax for three years, in order to relieve land from the burdens which unduly pressed upon it, but they proposed to establish a different rate of payment for incomes derived from realised property and incomes the result of intelligence and skill. He was incredulous as to the abrogation of the Income-tax at the end of seven years, for the spirit of the times appeared hostile to its abrogation. But (said Mr. Disraeli)—

If this tax is not to be mitigated, and if its inequalities and its injustice are to baffle both Minister and Legislature, the best thing to do is to apply your surplus and accruing income as you receive it to the reduction of an impost which no Minister can manage and no people can long endure (Cheers).

He had one great objection to the financial policy of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that it was conceived in a spirit of injustice to the land. Deducting the Income-tax, one-fourth of our revenue of £46,000,000 a year was raised, directly or indirectly, upon a single crop of the British farmer. The average of the united duties levied in one way or another on barley was 230 per cent. He should have preferred his own more prudent arrangement regarding the tea duties; but, as he believed that the supply of tea which China could afford us was illimitable, he was not terrified by the arrangement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. But, by reducing the duties upon tea more than 100 per cent, tea would be brought into increased competition with the beverages prepared from home productions. The late Government saw the importance of increasing our commerce with India and China, by reducing our duties on tea; and they also saw the advantage of dealing with the wine and brandy duties, whereby our commerce with France and the south of Europe might be increased; but the late Government thought they were bound simultaneously to reduce the burden and mass of indirect taxation that pressed upon the industry of the British producer. If Parliament thought it right to permit articles to enter into competition with articles produced by the English cultivator of the soil, they should take care that it was an unrestricted competition on the part of the British farmer. He believed that all taxes on successions were unsound in principle. They were taxes on capital—unsound in principle as regarded personal property, and still more unsound as regarded landed property, because they led to partition. Was it generous to attack the land after such an immense revolution in those laws which regulated the importation of foreign produce? He had received 300 or 400 letters complaining of the tax upon licenses, and declaring that it was worse than the House-tax. The right hon. gentleman appeared to have yielded to the discontent which his proposal had excited, and was about to alter his scale. He must have thought his original proposal just, proper, and politic; but he changed his opinion in twenty-four hours, when the trades rose and told him they would not endure it. The noble Lord (J. Russell) had taunted his party with having refused an 8s. duty upon corn; but it would only have been fair if he had stated at whose urgent advice he and his friends had refused it.

When the noble Lord remembers under whose advice and at whose instance that proposal was refused—when he remembers who are those by whom he is now surrounded (Opposition cheers)—when the noble Lord remembers that he has thrown away the Whig party, and that he has accepted a subordinate office under the subordinate officers of Sir Robert Peel, I think he might have felt that the time has come when these scoffs and sneers should cease (Cheers).

Mr. Disraeli concluded by deprecating the hostility evinced by the representatives of the great towns to land, and asserted that every man in the country was deeply interested in maintaining the stability of the possession of the land of this country.

If, however (said the right hon. gentleman), the representatives of towns are still alienated from us—if they still proceed in their illusory progress—they may arrive at the goal which they may contemplate—they may achieve the object they have set before them; but I believe they will be greatly disappointed in the result, and will find only a change from a first-rate kingdom into a second-rate republic (Cheers).

Lord J. RUSSELL said that no House of Commons since 1842 had seriously contemplated the termination of the Income-tax; but, by continuing it for the limited time proposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the House of Commons would be enabled to part with the tax if it should think fit to do so. The noble Lord detailed some of the great advantages of the Budget—the repeal of the duty on soap, the reduction of the tea duty, and the adjustment of the assessed taxes on horses, carriages, and servants. Mr. Disraeli complained of new taxes upon land, and said that the Budget was framed in a spirit hostile to the land; and yet what was the proposition before the House, moved by the hon. member for Hertfordshire (Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton). Did it take off burdens from land or impose new taxes upon trade? On the contrary the proposition before the House was that whereas land was now taxed 7d., and trade 7d., land should continue to be taxed at the same rate and trade and manufactures at a lower rate. Was ever anything so contradictory? He contended that Ireland would be greatly a gainer by the Budget. The relief given by the Consolidated Annuities was £245,000, by the Tea-duties £375,000, and other smaller items £50,000;

while in 1860, Ireland would be relieved from £670,000; and the only duties imposed would be the Legacy-duty and the Spirit-duty—leaving £412,000 a year as the balance of remission to Ireland. He admitted that the course which Parliament had taken in 1842, and again in 1846, in levying an Income-tax and reducing the duties upon articles of consumption was more beneficial to the country than the course which he proposed to take in 1842. The noble Lord concluded as follows:—

It was said last year (by the Earl of Derby)—and I think it was a proof of little wisdom in him who said it—that he would endeavour to rule this country so as to check the advance of democracy. Depend on it, that the ruler who sets himself to check the advance of democracy will but increase the irritation and augment the influence of the power against which he sets himself (Hear, hear); but, if you consult the interests of the people, you will make democracy conservative; you will carry democracy with you, instead of having it oppose you as an enemy. I rejoice that, towards the termination of this course—which Parliament has now for nearly twelve years pursued—my right hon. friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer has had this opportunity of laying the propositions before the House which—whether we consider the propositions themselves, or the manner in which they were introduced—must give him a name to be envied among the Financial Ministers of this country (Cheers). If, in order to do this, it has been his fortune to live before his age, I trust he will find his reward in the approbation and support of this House, and in the gratitude of an admiring people. (The noble Lord resumed his seat amid loud cheering.)

The Committee then divided; the numbers were—

For the resolution	323
Against it	252
Ministerial majority	71

The announcement was received with vehement cheering from the supporters of the Government.

MR. LAWLESS then proposed an amendment to omit from the resolution the words "United Kingdom" and substitute the words "Great Britain," with the view of exempting Ireland from the imposition of the Income-tax.

The debate on this amendment was adjourned, notwithstanding numerous calls for an immediate division; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Thursday.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR, in moving the second reading of the Charitable Trusts Bill, repeated the arguments by which the necessity for such a bill has so often been established. It had been ascertained pretty accurately that the institution of proceedings in Chancery on the subject of a charitable fund which did not yield more than £30 a year would necessarily absorb the whole of the capital—from £600 to £1000—even if the parties prosecuting were successful. There were no less than 22,760 charities in this category, which were, therefore, without the pale of the law, and must be dealt with by some cheaper and more summary jurisdiction. A board would be established, which would exercise a superintendence over all the charities in the kingdom, at no expense whatever to the smaller charities. Trustees of every charity would have to keep regular accounts of all their receipts and expenditure, and to deposit a copy with the clerks of the County Courts, which would deal with the smaller class of charities; and another copy with the board in London, where they would always be accessible to inspection. The bill gave the board great powers, and they might frame a new scheme (subject to the veto of Parliament), where the funds of charities were applied to injurious or useless purposes. The expenses of the board, which would consist of two unpaid and two paid commissioners, would be defrayed out of the public exchequer.

Several peers, and among them Lord BROUGHAM, thanked the Lord Chancellor for his measure; but Lord ST. LEONARDS objected to give to a board thus constituted the powers conferred by the bill.

The bill was read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a select committee.

The Cathedral Appointments Bill was read a second time.

Three bills brought in by Lord ST. LEONARDS, amending the law relative to lunacy, went through a stage.

EARL GRANVILLE moved the third reading of the South-Sea Annuities Commutation Bill.

Lord MONTEAGLE said that the plan for augmenting the capital of the Debt was open to very grave objection. For the first time in the history of England, without any pressure of financial difficulty, they were about to issue Government paper to pass from hand to hand after the fashion of a circulating medium, which was not convertible into the coin of the realm; and, consequently, had not that security against an over-issue. Now, ought the Government to become bankers and issuers of convertible paper, and that for so long a period as forty years? This was the principle adopted by the Republic of France, with such ruinous consequences. He warned their Lordships, from the frauds committed by Mr. Beaumont Smith, that forgeries of Exchequer Bonds would be attempted.

The bill was read a third time, and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

MR. LOCKE KING brought forward his annual motion, to give the right voting for counties to all occupiers of tenements of the yearly value of £10. Lord J. RUSSELL said that the motion was intimately connected with the whole question of the representation, and to deal with it the Government would have to postpone all the important questions in which they were engaged, to take up this one of the reform of the representation. The Government were not indisposed to consider the whole question, and he hoped to be able to introduce a measure, at a time and in a manner, which would entitle it to receive the serious attention of the House. Mr. HUME was perfectly satisfied that a fair and satisfactory Reform Bill would be introduced next session. He advised his hon. friend not to press his motion to a division. Mr. HADFIELD said the state of the representation of the country was most unsatisfactory. In a population of 27,000,000 the majority of the members of that House were returned by 174,0

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in the House of Lords by £2 10s., or a place in the Post-office; but is there no bribery in making Barons Viscounts, and Viscounts Earls, and Earls Marquises? (Hear, hear). There is a bill introduced by the noble Lord, or some reformer or other, prohibiting the giving of a few yards of penny ribbon to the wives and daughters of the electors—it is bribery! But you will find in the House of Lords the gift of three yards of green ribbon, or blue ribbon, very conducive to the public interest (Laughter). I am not (ensuring these proceedings; I justify them; it is the only system by which your Government can be carried on. I am only sorry the Government have not got a great deal more power of this sort (Loud Laughter). When gentlemen come down to this House they must carry on their "bribery and corruption," as it is called (which is self-interest). In another way. They must put up with seats at boards, and things of that sort (Laughter); and when there is a man that is particularly boring (Boring), why, he must be sent to Hong-Kong (Roars of Laughter). I am very sorry that the Government have not in their gift great many Hong-kongs; the House would be much improved by it (Loud laughter). Unless all' rumour's tongues united in falsehood (he continued), the noble Lord had, not very long ago, received a letter of remonstrance from the head of a large family—not particularly remarkable for talent—because he had not included some of them in the new arrangements ("Hear, hear," and a laugh). What was the danger of the Government? Simply, mere want of places (A laugh). There was no danger to the Government from any opposition that could be offered from the other side of the House. The danger was, that it received shots from the rear (A laugh). If the Treasury were to be symbolized or embodied, it would be as Cybele or Tellus, with more applicants for nourishment than she could supply; or—he would take a more homely illustration—that of Gillray's caricature of the sow that brought forth more pigs than she had teats for (Laughter). He saw in the notice-paper a motion from one of the friends of the Government (Mr. Illich)—something about India. What was it but the squeak of a pig that had got no teat? (Great laughter.) He thought the motion discreditable to the House, and therefore he opposed it.

Mr. HUME said the speech of the hon. gentleman was one of the most extraordinary he had ever heard.

It was a speech that he could not have believed any Englishman would have stood up in that House and delivered. The hon. gentleman had libelled the House ("Oh, oh," and loud cries of "Hear"); he had libelled the country; and, whatever the House of Lords might be, he had libelled that and all who were connected with it (Laughter).

Mr. RICH (who rose amid loud cries of "oh, oh" and great laughter) declared, amid the incredulous laughter of the House, that no hostility was intended to the Government in the motion he had made, and that he regarded them with unfeigned respect. From him they would receive the most cordial support when his conscience would go with them (A laugh).

Sir J. SHELLEY believed and hoped there was no man in that House less quarrelsome than he was; but words had been let drop by the hon. gentleman near him (Mr. Drummond) which, for the credit of that House, required some explanation (Cries of "Question" and "Order," and great confusion, during which the hon. Baronet resumed his seat).

The SPEAKER said, that if the hon. Baronet had wished to take exception to any word spoken by the hon. member for West Surrey, he ought to have done it at the time.

Mr. DRUMMOND said, if he had used any words that were improper, he would at once withdraw them.

Sir J. SHELLEY (with some excitement).—You said it was disgraceful and discreditable to the House (Cries of "Hear, hear" and "Order").

The House then divided; the numbers were:—

For the motion	..	..	..	..	78
Against it	..	..	..	..	188
Majority	..	..	..	..	—110

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The Payment of Wages Bill, the second reading of which was moved by Sir H. HALFORD, gave rise to a long debate. The bill had its origin in the distress of the stocking-weavers, the abuses and evils connected with middlemen, and the hiring of knitting-frames, which it was proposed to subject to a fair competition in open market. The object of the bill was defined by its supporters to be not to interfere with rents or wages, but to secure the knitters against exorbitant stoppages for rents and charges, and the payment of their wages in full, in the current coin. It was contended, on the other hand, that the system of frame-rents had grown up from the necessity of the case; and, if put an end to, the result would be to drive the manufacture from domestic workshops into mills. A proposal by Mr. HUME, that the bill be read a second time that day six months, was carried by 186 against 125, so that the bill was lost.

The rest of the sitting was occupied by the Combination of Workmen Bill. Six o'clock having arrived, the House adjourned without having come to any decision for or against the third reading.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

To-day, being Holy Thursday, their Lordships did not meet.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Sir W. MOLESWORTH moved for leave to bring in a bill to transfer Westminster-bridge, and the estates of the Commissioners of Westminster-bridge, to the Commissioners of her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings, and to enable such last-mentioned Commissioners to remove the present bridge, and to build a new bridge on or near the site thereof.—Agreed to.

In reply to Sir John Shelley, Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT said that a statement which had appeared in newspapers, that orders had recently been issued forbidding their circulation in soldiers' barracks, was not correct. The facts of the case were these. When he became Secretary at War, he found that no newspapers were allowed to be taken in barracks, or in libraries or reading-rooms attached; and the consequence was that the soldiers were in the habit of resorting to potholes, in order to ascertain the news. Anxious to put an end to this state of things, he issued an order that newspapers should be admitted into barracks, excepting only those which were of a controversial character, either with respect to religion or military discipline, and the *United Service Gazette* was one of the papers thus excluded.

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED ELECTION.

The adjourned debate upon the question as to whether the writ should issue for a new election for Berwick-upon-Tweed, was resumed by Mr. PHENN, who opposed the motion upon the ground that the borough was notoriously corrupt. He contended that a Committee of Inquiry ought to issue, and report upon the state of the borough before they took any further step in the matter. He therefore proposed, as an amendment, that no writ should issue until the 2nd of June.

Mr. K. SEYMER thought that no ground had been shown for withholding the writ. The borough had never been before Parliament except on the present occasion; and, as chairman, he could assure the House that the committee were unanimously of opinion that the writ should issue.

Sir F. THIESTIGER supported the motion for the issuing of the writ.

After a few words from Mr. WHITESIDE, The House divided, when the numbers were—For the issuing of the writ, 218; against it, 60; majority, 158. It was accordingly ordered that the writ be issued.

THE ROTHERHITHI ROCKET SEIZURE.

On the motion for going into Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. T. DUNCOMBE asked Lord Palmerston whether, in consequence of two informations of a political character having been laid against William Hale, inventor and manufacturer of the patent war-rocket; and the first of such informations having terminated in the said patentee, William Hale, being adjudged to pay certain penalties to the Crown—whether it is the intention of her Majesty's Government to advise the Crown to proceed with the second information laid under the provisions of a law passed during the reign of William III., 1697, intituled an Act to prevent the Throwing or Firing of Squibs, Serpents, and other Fireworks? The hon. gentleman admitted that, in making rockets, Mr. Hale was guilty of a violation of the law, in the same degree as every maker of squibs and crackers for Cremona or Vauxhall and every manufacturer of lucifers in the metropolis. He thought that the Government ought to have taken a fairer or more direct course of proceeding than by raking up an old Act of Parliament which had been obsolete for 120 years. He believed that the motive which had led to this prosecution had been an Austrian one. A Frankfort paper had said that the Austrian police had been able to make several arrests from information which they had received from the London police. He was quite certain that the people of this country would never sanction the employment of the British police for the purposes of foreign espionage.

Lord PALMERSTON said he disclaimed all responsibility as to anything which might be said about him in any newspaper, British or foreign; and if the hon. gentleman had been as much in the habit of seeing what foreign newspapers said of him (Lord Palmerston), he would come, perhaps, to a different conclusion than that he appeared disposed to arrive at. He (Lord Palmerston), for example, was told the other day, that, in one of the incursions which had lately been made into Italy, a number of

daggers were found which bore his name upon them; and some of the foreign papers then said, "See, here is a detestable and diabolical revolutionist!—here is his name on the daggers—'Palmerston'" (Laughter). With respect to the prosecution alluded to, he had no hesitation in saying that the object of the Government was not, of course, to procure penalties upon a few pounds of powder; but when he was informed that there was a great quantity of warlike stores collected in a comparatively secret place, he felt it was his duty to institute the proceedings which he had done. He considered that the decision to which Mr. Hale, the magistrate, had come was a very proper one. With respect to the question whether it was the intention of the Government to proceed with the prosecution, he had no hesitation in saying that there was no desire to press upon Mr. Hale; and in stating that the evidence which had been adduced did not justify proceedings against any person, British or foreign, except Mr. Hale. It was not, therefore, thought proper to abandon the prosecution; because such a course, as a precedent, would be liable to great abuse; and, in the present instance, proceedings might be taken against the Government for a malicious prosecution. It was also considered necessary to take the opinion of a Court of Justice upon the question, and so the case would proceed, although Mr. Hale would not suffer from its being pushed to extremity. The object was to furnish a good precedent for future proceedings of a similar character.

Mr. BRIGG remarked upon the tardiness which Lord Palmerston had displayed in doing justice to Kossuth; and intimated that the articles which appeared in the *Times* newspaper were written by parties who dared not affix their names to their slanders. He wished to know if it was true that spies were emloyed to watch the movements of M. Kossuth; and, if so, by whom they were paid.

Lord PALMERSTON said that no special directions were given to the police to watch the movements of M. Kossuth. The directions that were given were of a general character; namely, to see that the laws of the country were not infringed by foreigners, as well as others. If they had reason to believe that such proceedings were contemplated, it was their duty to inform the Government; and, if they had reason to suppose so in the case of Kossuth, they had a right to watch and to see whether their suspicions were well founded or not.

Mr. COBDEN rose to put a question to Lord Palmerston on the same subject; but the SPEAKER intimated that the noble Lord, having already spoken twice on the matter, could not, in accordance with the rules of the House, be required to speak again.

Mr. COBDEN then asked Lord John Russell whether any communications had passed between the Home-office, the police commissioners, and the stipendiary magistrates, with reference to the transaction?

Lord J. RUSSELL said that the police commissioners reported periodically to the Home-office, and had, therefore, to make communications with reference to the affair under consideration. He admitted the claims of political refugees to the asylum of this country; but it was equally clear that the refugees must not abuse its hospitality by taking hostile steps against friendly countries. With respect to M. Kossuth, he was under peculiar obligations to this country, and should take especial care that he did nothing to endanger our amicable relations with other powers. It was impossible that suspicion should not attach to the movements of M. Kossuth, when they recollect the proclamation which was issued at Milan, and his recent letter, avowing his intention to wage war against an ally of England. Austria had, however, made no demand whatever in reference to this matter.

Sir J. WALMSLEY said that the proclamation referred to had been issued before the arrival of M. Kossuth in England. He would, however, move for a committee of inquiry into the proceedings of the police.

INCOME-TAX.

The House went into a Committee of Ways and Means, in consideration of the resolution in reference to the Income-tax.

Mr. LAWLESS moved, as an amendment to the resolution of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the words "Great Britain" be substituted for "United Kingdom" in the second line of the resolution; the object being to exempt Ireland from the operation of the Income-tax.

Col. DUNNIE said, if the hon. gentleman was disposed to prevent the Income-tax being extended to Ireland, he should have voted for the amendment on a former evening. The hon. member must be fully aware that his present amendment was altogether futile, and that it could not be carried. He would, however, vote for it, if it were pressed.

Mr. V. SCULLY supported the Government proposition.

A discussion then took place, in the course of which Mr. C. G. DUFFY used the following language:—"Short as my experience of Parliament has been, I do not think, in the worst days of Walpole and Pelham more scandalous corruption existed than I have seen under my own eyes practised upon Irish members."

There was an immediate demand made upon Mr. Duffy of "Name, name," which created the greatest noise and confusion.

Ultimately, upon the motion of Mr. J. BALL, the words were ordered to be taken down, and the debate upon the matter was adjourned until the following day (Friday) at four o'clock.—Adjourned.

ELECTION COMMITTEES AND AFFAIRS.—Totness: Mr. T. Mills declared duly elected.—Dublin and Carlow: Petitions against return withdrawn.—Berrick-on-Tweed: Mr. Macnamara (Liberal) opposed Mr. D. C. Majoribanks (Conservative).—Maidstone: Mr. W. Lee (Liberal) and Mr. C. W. Martin (Conservative) contest this borough.—West Gloucestershire: In case of a dissolution the Hon. G. Berkeley offers himself.—Taunton: The polling was on Tuesday, and the result as follows:—Sir J. Ramsden (Liberal), 373; Mr. Badcock (Conservative), 366: majority, 7.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE "DAUNTLESS."—The ill-fated *Dauntless*, 24 (screw), Captain Halstead, arrived on Wednesday at Spithead, last from Bermuda. We give, for the satisfaction of their friends, the list of officers who have come home in her:—First Lieut. J. W. Armstrong, Second Lieut. W. H. Jones, Third Lieut. — Sutton, Fourth Lieut. E. Stubbs, Surgeon Alex. Woodcock, Paymaster J. Biggs, Master C. Q. Parker, Chief Engineer G. M. Burt, Assistant Engineer Mr. Saunders, Second Assistant Engineer Mr. Houghton; Clerks Messrs. C. Leecombe and Hyde; Lieut. Starr, Royal Marine Artillery; Dr. Wallace, Assistant-Surgeon; and 251 crew, all well. Also, as passengers, Captain Arbuthnot, of the Royal Artillery, from Barbadoes; and Mr. McDonald, from Bermuda. Midshipmen: Messrs. Seely, Twiss, Blair, Hudson, O'Connell, and Brooke.

THE SICK CREW.—The Admiralty have ordered the *Agamemnon*, 90, screw-ship, Captain Sir Thomas Maitland, to proceed from Spithead to Madeira, in order to give the crew a chance of recovering and establishing their health.

FROM THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA.—The *Cygnets*, 8, Commander Richard D. White, anchored on Sunday evening at Spithead, having left Lagos on the 1st of August, 1850, since which she has sailed over 45,000 miles. She has not been sufficiently in luck to capture any slaves.

THE GREAT ENCAMPMENT.—The ground has been selected for this purpose, beyond Ascot Heath; but we shall enter into further details with the illustrations which we shall present to our readers in a future Number.

SCREW v. PADDLE.—The *Bengal* screw-steamer, which brought home the last Indian mail, performed the distance between Malta and Alexandria, 820 miles, in two days twenty hours, which is the shortest time the voyage was ever performed in; and she must have averaged 12 miles an hour to have done it in the time. There is no doubt that this steamer (one of the largest at present in the world) can run, under very favourable circumstances, 12 miles an hour.

SUBMARINE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH FROM DOVER TO OSTEND.—We are happy to record the laying down of the Submarine Cable, which has been completed with perfect success; the squadron anchoring off Middlemire at one p.m. on Thursday. (Next week we shall illustrate this interesting event.)

DINNER AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.—The Lord Mayor, on Monday night, entertained at dinner the Judges, a certain number of official dignitaries, and a few literary men. After the customary toasts (Mr. J. G. L. having replied for his own country), the Chief Baron of the Exchequer proposed the Lord Mayor, and then Mr. Justice Talfourd gave the health of Mr. Charles Dickens, and in proposing it passed an eulogy on Mrs. Beecher Stowe, who was present. Mr. Dickens, in reply, said some happy words of compliment about Mrs. Stowe.

CITY COMMISSIONERS OF SEWERS.—The Commissioners met on Tuesday for the despatch of business. The usual routine of business was disposed of, and tenders were received for the cleansing of streets &c., for the year commencing at Midsummer next. By the contract it is provided that all the streets in the City are to be effectively cleansed every day, and the main streets are to be cleaned twice on each Saturday, with a view to their decent appearance on the Sunday. The contractors accepted were Messrs. Gould, Charles Parsons, Robert Drummond, and W. Sennott, junior, and the aggregate cost will be £4700, which is a reduction, as was stated, in favour of the existing contract of nearly £8000.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. C. W.—The last seems clever, but, from the number of variations it admits of, requires very careful revision.
EULEKA!—If White touched his adversary's Pawn, as well as his own Queen, he was bound to take the Pawn; if he only took hold of the Queen, he was at liberty to play her where he chose.
D. C. T.—In our next we intend to give some account of the doings at the Great Manchester Meeting, held this week.
F. T. M., Amateur.—It is generally understood that at the Manchester dinner, Mr. Staunton purposed to give a challenge to play a Match of twenty-one games with any player of the day. This answers both your queries.
J. W., Liverpool.—You must have described the position inaccurately. If the White Queen stands at *K B 5th*, and the Black King at *Q R square*, how can the former take the *K R* Pawn, giving check?
* * * Our customary notices to Chess Correspondents are for the most part deferred till next week.

PROBLEM No. 482.

Of this "difficulty" we have received so few solutions, that we shall leave it as an exercise of our readers' ingenuity for a few days longer.

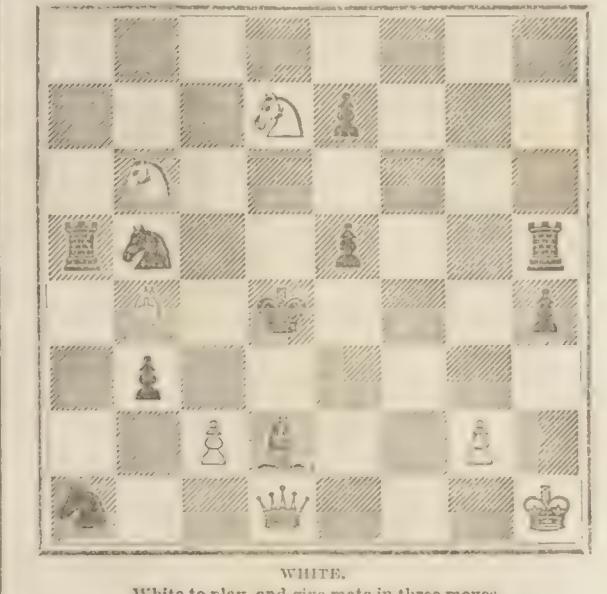
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 482.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. K moves	K to Q 3rd	3. It to Q B 7th	K takes the other Rook.
2. K to Q Kt 5th(ch)	K moves	(ch)	4. Kt mates

PROBLEM No. 484.

By BRIDPORT.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and give mate in three moves.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 815.—*Schachzeitung*.

White: K at Q R 5th, Q at K R 2nd, B at Q Kt 2nd, Kt at K Kt 4th; Ps at K 2nd and Q B 2nd.
Black: K at Q B 5th, Kt at K B 4th; Ps at K 6th, Q 2nd, and Q B 4th.

White to play, and mate in two moves.

No. 816.—By W. R., of Glasgow.

White: K at K D 3rd, Q at Q Kt 2nd, R at Q Kt 6th, B at K B 3rd and Q B 3rd, Kt at Q B 2nd, Ps at K 5th and K Kt 3rd.
Black: K at K B 4th, Q at K B 2nd, R at K Kt 4th and Q Kt sq; B at Q 2nd, Kts at K Kt 2nd and Q B sq; Ps at K 3rd, K B 5th, K Kt 3rd, K R 5th, Q 6th, and Q 7th.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

CHESTER RACES.

TUESDAY.—During the early part of the morning the scene on the Roodee was of the usual animated and exciting character. A large number of horses galloped. The Cup candidates, Trifile, Peggy, Black Doctor, Woolwich, Newminster, Lord Lieutenant, and Mr. Isaac Day's two were particularly admired for their bloom of condition and style of going. At the betting-room the investments were

EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

THE display at the rooms of the Royal Academy, just opened for the season, though including many attractive and meritorious productions, is not as a whole very encouraging to the prospects of art. We regret that the fact should be so; a fact of the more significance at the present moment, when the question of affording encouragement to art has been taken up under the highest auspices; the probable result of which will be that the Royal Academy will come in for a larger share of influence and advantages than it has hitherto enjoyed; and, as a natural consequence, the independent disciples and votaries of art will be compelled to pay still humbler deference to its authority, and be subject more completely to its caprices than heretofore. If this Academy pretends, as its name implies, to be a school of art, it is now high time that it should proclaim some principles of art; and that its members—the assumed "aristocracy of art"—should evince activity in illustrating those principles by the best efforts of their hands. So far is this from being the case, however, the Royal Academy was never less productive either in respect of theory or illustration than on the present occasion: several members—Macclise, Mulready, Leslie, R.A.'s, and Frith, the R.A. elect, being altogether absent; and several of those who remain being represented by few, and often very unimportant, specimens. As honourable exceptions to this remark, however, we must name Sir E. Landseer—who stands in the van of the Academicians, and in his "Night" and "Morning" has fairly eclipsed anything that has hitherto come from his wondrously-creative hand; and Stanfield, who, on his chosen scene of action, the ocean deep, has no competitor in our day. But then it immediately occurs to us that these are works in the second order of art: and when we look round to see what has been done in the other schools, what do we find? The accomplished President, confessedly weak and unsuccessful in the historical school; and very near him, in the Great Room, Chalon, contributing two very weak sketchy affairs—one, a fruit piece; the other entitled "A Little Music," which any artist (not an R.A.) whether amateur or professional, would have blushed to let see the light beyond the circle of his most intimate friends. We are, indeed, at a loss to understand how this should be; and are compelled to suppose that there must be some peculiar advantages, some sedative influences, inherent to the status of a Royal Academician, which relieve him from the occasion for personal exertion, and permit him to retire into an *otium cum dignitate* for the rest of his days. It is well for the art and for the Academy, on the other hand, that there is constantly an increasing crowd of ardent and hard-working practitioners beyond the privileged pale, whose works serve to fill the walls or an annual



"THE TRUANT DEFEATED."—PAINTED BY W. HEMSLEY.

precedents. We now proceed to notice some of the principal works exhibited on the present occasion.

Landseer's two magnificent pictures, hanging on the side wall of the Great Room, first command attention: they are (46) "Night," and (69) "Morning." In the former the artist depicts a wild rocky spot, beside a mountain lake, where two red deer are engaged in mortal conflict; their antlers locked in one another, and every muscle of their bodies straining in deadly purpose. The expiring flame in the eyes of one of them shows that the fight has been long and severe, and that it will probably soon be over, with the death of one or both of the combatants. Admirable as is the poetic conception displayed in the study of these brute heroes, the surrounding landscape more than divides the honours of the present work; the pale full moon shines through a misty atmosphere, the lake lashed by a fierce north wind sending up a fitful spray, in which Boreali "madly glance."

In "Morning," we see the result of the battle overnight—

Locked in the close embrace of death,

their horns still tangled together, the mighty champions of the mountain side are brought to a level in death. The fox stealing forward to feed upon their remains, and the eagle winging its way from afar to claim its share in the spoil, suggest an appropriate epilogue to the drama just enacted; whilst pictorially the contrast between the forms of the living and the dead is most striking, and affords fine opportunities for skilful handling. And here also the artist's landscape surpasses in grandeur of conception and power of execution the animal objects. The storm is passed away with the night; the sun is rising calmly behind the mountains, whose craggy heads are warmed with its first rays; the latter again being reflected in the smooth lake below. Landseer has two other works in the present exhibition. 170, "Children of the Mist," represents a group of stags indistinctly seen through a mountain mist—a good idea admirably realised; 291, "Twins," consists of a group of sheep and lambs, with dogs above; but is not equal in textural execution to many other works of this class we have seen from the same hand.

Stanfield's great work—which hangs between Landseer's "Night" and "Morning," and even there well maintains its position—represents a subject in itself so interesting, that we are surprised it should never have been adopted before (at least, it has not been to our knowledge)—"H.M.S. the *Victory*, with the body of Nelson on board, towed into Gibraltar, 28th of October, 1805, seven days after the battle of Trafalgar." The anchorage is crowded with disabled ships which had already arrived; there is a moderate swell upon the sea, which sets all these variously-wounded and variously-patched-up veterans of the deep in motion, when the *Victory*, knocked and battered about, her flag half-mast high, heavily sweeps in amongst them, being in tow of another vessel. The solemn effect of this scene has been commemorated by



"KATHERINE'S DREAM."—PAINTED BY H. O'NEIL.

the historian, and has evidently inspired the artist in the treatment of the present very noble work. If he had never touched canvas before, and were never to touch it again, he has here produced enough whereon to rest a lasting fame.

Sir C. Eastlake, the accomplished President — accomplished in all that pertains to the poetry, the doctrines, and the proprieties of art—exhibits only two works, which convincingly prove that art-knowledge and art-skill are not necessarily associated. 124, "Ruth Sleeping at the Feet of Boaz," is what might be termed a pretty picture; the figures neatly drawn, and the *entourage* of unimpeachable quietness and propriety. But nothing can compensate for the weakness, the want of naturalness of the figures; and the colouring, a disordered mixture of various hues, and compounds of red, from crimson to ruby, with additions of yellow, brown, bright pale blue, and pale yellow, cannot be accounted for, or excused by any rules or exceptions to the rules of art. 106, "Vioante," is a female figure, expressionless, tamely drawn, and unbeknowningly habited in an old-fashioned dress of pale green, set off with a pearl necklace.

Dyce has two exhibits. 140, "The Meeting of Jacob and Rachel" —(Genesis, xxix., 9), is a small picture, cleverly conceived, and carefully and tastefully executed. Jacob rushes forward with ardour to greet Rachel, who, standing motionless, her eyes downcast, receives him but coldly. The limbs are well studied; the flesh well rounded and delicately coloured. 931 is a cartoon for one of the frescoes to be painted in All Saints' Church, St. Marylebone—the subject St. Peter—and is of considerable merit.

F. Danby exhibits but one piece (154), "A Wild Sea-shore—Sunset;" a fine specimen of his brilliant and transparent colouring, though wanting a little in light in the middle ground, considering the position of the sun.

Herbert also contents himself with one production of his pencil, and that a very small one—"A Head of a Scribe," being a study for a portion of one of the frescoes in the New Palace of Westminster. This head is well studied and powerful in expression, but sketchily executed. It shows, however, that some progress is making in the imitation of the broad style of treatment practised by the old masters, and so adapted to fresco painting.

Jones has a view of the "Battle of Waterloo" (224), taken from the British quarters at the moment of the order being given for the attack of the Foot Guards, in which he displays all his usual skill in treating a subject now pretty familiar to him; but the colouring is

not very effective, being pale and somewhat crude.

As Mr. Jones re-produces the last of Wellington's victories, Cooper re-commemorates his first (23) "The Battle of Assaye." Battle-pieces generally, with all their stirring incidents, are but poor subjects for the artist; and are very much alike, the one to the other. The one before us is no exception to the rule; being, for the most part, a mass of confusion, in the midst of which the figure of the Duke, on a spirited charger, is displayed, after the usual fashion.

E. M. Ward, whose fine picture of the "Execution of Charlotte Corday" was so justly admired in the last Exhibition, this year exhibits another somewhat similar scene, that of "The Execution of Montrose in the Market Cross at Edinburgh" (396), painted for the New Houses of Parliament; the peculiar incident chosen being that where the executioner revilingly ties Wishart's book around Montrose's neck at the foot of the scaffold. This is a masterly work, full of subject matter, admirably varied in the grouping; but, as we intend engraving it, we shall say more of it in a future notice. In his other exhibited work Mr. Ward has chosen an event in recent French history, equal in pathetic interest, though less violent in the emotions excited by it, as that of the death of the heroic Corday; namely, "Josephine Signing the Act of her Divorce"—another female sacrifice to the force of destiny. This painful scene took place in the Grand Cabinet of the Emperor, at the Tuilleries, and in the evening, by candle-light, on the 16th December, 1809. This circumstance, perhaps, has led to the yellow hue which pervades the picture, and which, though it may realise the proper effect when viewed by candle-light, is not agreeable by day. It must be added, that, although the grouping of the various figures is animated, and appropriately illustrative of the story, the figures themselves are somewhat hard in outline, and in too prominent relief for general harmonious effect. The expression of Josephine, as she takes a last look—a look of sorrow, not of anger—at her cruel husband, is entitled to praise; but, Napoleon himself, resting his head upon his hand (not an attitude of dignity, or indication of firmness of purpose), wears rather the aspect of a scowl than the merely "searching and anxious expression" described by Lenormand in his "Memoires." Nevertheless, with all these little drawbacks, this work is an extremely clever one, upon a subject of considerable historic interest.

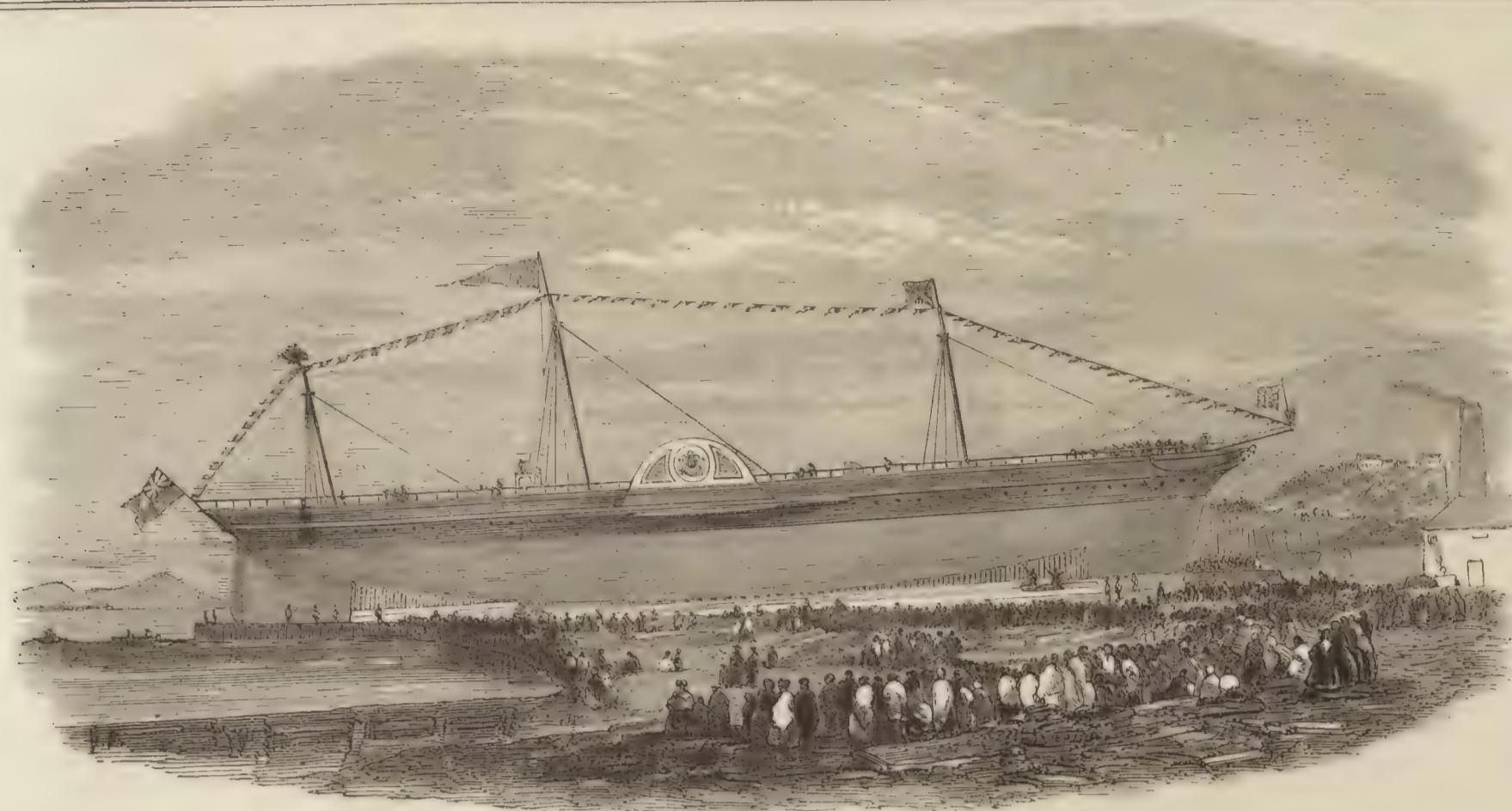
C. W. Cope exhibits three very pleasing pictures in the genre style



"THE PAGE."—PAINTED BY C. W. COPE, R.A.



"THE THORNY AND THE FLOWERY PATH."—PAINTED BY T. UWINS, R.A.



LAUNCH OF THE IRON STEAM-SHIP "ATRATO," AT GREENOCK.

LAUNCH OF THE "ATRATO," AT GREENOCK.
The announcement that Messrs. Caird and Co. intended to launch from their building-yard, Cartsdyke, on Tuesday week, the Royal Mail iron paddle steamer *Atrato*, "the largest ship in the world" attracted a vast concourse of spectators.

Shortly after one o'clock Sir Michael and Lady Octavia Shaw Stewart arrived, and were received by Captain Miller and Mr. Caird. Lady Octavia was received by Mrs. Caird, who, with several other ladies, occupied seats on the platform, at the vessel's head, and Captain Miller put into her hand the bottle, slung from the vessel's bows by a Stewart tartan ribbon, explaining the process of naming the ship.

Much had already been done in the way of preparation, and only the wedges in front of the paddle-boxes had to be hardened up, and a few shores and keel blocks to be removed. At a quarter-past one the first wedge was struck, and the work went on rapidly; soon the immense mass was lifted and lay quietly in her cradle, kept in her position by the triggers and the three front keel-blocks. The "daggers" were next removed, and the centre keel-block knocked away, when the weight of the enormous mass crushing its way through the planking on which it rested on the blocks with a groaning noise, freed the vessel from the drag which prevented her progress; and, amid the most intense excitement and vociferous cheers of the spectators, she began to move. At this moment Lady Octavia hurled the bottle with most accurate aim, pronouncing at the same time the ship's name, and the *Atrato* glided quickly but smoothly down the ways amidst the thundering of the cannon, the most hearty cheers, and waving of hats, handkerchiefs, parasols, &c.; the artisans, in the enthusiasm of the moment, hurling their heavy hammers after her. The ways were carried far out, and the vessel,

without anything resembling a plunge, and scarcely even a shake, entered the water in her natural position, running off so rapidly that it was found necessary to anchor her until the tugs which were in attendance could get attached to her.

We subjoin a few particulars of the *Atrato*:—Early last year, the fine ship *Demerara*, built on the Severn, for the Royal Mail Steam-packet Company, unfortunately got stranded across the river soon after her launch, and was so much injured, that she had to be broken up. For this ship Messrs. Caird and Co. had the engines ready to go on board; and the directors immediately gave orders to the firm to construct an iron vessel to be fitted with them. That ship is the *Atrato*. To suit the machinery, it was requisite to maintain the same width as the *Demerara* had been, but the length has been considerably increased. Including engine-room, she will register 3466 tons. The *Great Britain* is of greater capacity by about 30 tons; but the *Atrato* is longer by 40 feet. Her dimensions are:—

Length over all ..	..	..	350 feet.
" of keel and forerake ..	..	..	315 "
Extreme breadth, including wings ..	..	..	72 "
Breadth of beam ..	..	..	42 "
Depth of hold ..	..	..	34 "

The size of the great war-steamer *Duke of Wellington* may be stated, by way of comparison:—

Extreme length ..	..	..	278 feet
Length of keel and forerake ..	..	..	240 "
Breadth ..	..	..	59 "
Depth ..	..	..	24½ "

The *Duke* being thus less than the *Atrato* by above 70 feet in length and 10 feet in depth; the width of the latter being, from the cause mentioned, less by 17 feet. The height from keel to top of bulwark-rail, is 43 feet. Her bow is surmounted by a spirited representation of an Indian deity, the work of Mr. Peter Christie, of Greenock.

The *Atrato* has four decks, seven and eight feet respectively in height. The spar deck is flush from stem to stern, affording a promenade the length and breadth of a good street, 330 feet by 38. She is to have two funnels and three masts. The standing rigging is exceedingly light and graceful, being formed of Newall's galvanised iron; and the masts are fitted with Sir Snow Harris's lightning conductors. The lower masts are already fixed; the main and fore masts, which appear quite small in the large hull, are "great sticks" of Quebec pine, selected in America and brought here for the purpose—the former measuring 90 feet long by 7 in circumference.

The keel of the ship was formed of nine enormous pieces of iron, and the stem and stern-posts are each one piece, and both carried besides some distance along horizontally. In the framing and fitting of the paddle-boxes, the beams and stringers, all of patent iron, present an extraordinary contrast to the great logs used for the purpose in the other ships. The paddle-spaces are 40 feet by 12½ wide, the wheels, of 37 feet diameter, being on the patent feathering principle. The ship is divided into seven water-tight compartments, by strong iron bulkheads. The iron used in the construction of the hull is above 1300 tons. She is to be propelled by two beam-engines of the collective power of 800 horses.

Internally, little has yet been done in the way of fitting up; but we may mention that she is to have accommodation for 224 first-class passengers.



THE "WAR-ROCKET" CASE AT THE BOW-STREET POLICE-OFFICE.—EXAMINATION OF THE HUNGARIAN WITNESS.—(SEE PAGE 350.)



LITERATURE

MUSIC

FINE-ARTS

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[GRATIS.

Literature.

HISTORY OF THE REFORMATION IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY.

Vol. V. By J. MERLE D'AUBIGNE, D.D. Oliver and Boyd.

The varied merits of this history have been so fully recognised by scholars and divines, that it were waste of words to descant on the erudition of the author, the industry of his researches, or the judgment with which he has arranged his materials. The present volume is exclusively devoted to the Reformation in England, commencing with the earliest introduction of Christianity into Britain, and continued down to the fall and death of Cardinal Wolsey. We learn, from the preface, that Dr. D'Aubigné, by order of our Government, has received copies of the national State papers, published by the commission of which the late Sir Robert Peel was president. He, therefore, has had access to the best authorities, and been enabled to consult authentic documents not previously explored. The publication of the work is opportune, as Rome is making powerful efforts to extend its spiritual and temporal dominion in the open face of day; while Puseyism is secretly attempting to undermine the foundations of Protestantism. Within the limited space to which we are necessarily confined, it is impossible for us to enter copiously into detail in reviewing the present volume; and, as we are thus driven to selection, we shall dwell rather on the earlier than on the later chapters, because the facts therein recorded are less popularly known, and also because the evidence therein contained refutes the assumption that Christianity was first taught to the ancient Britons by envoys or missionaries from Rome. This is a most material consideration to Protestants wavering in their faith, and who have not time at their disposal to consult our earlier annals. Whatever doubts or misgivings such persons may entertain will be removed by a perusal of the pages of D'Aubigné; and we shall now endeavour to give a rapid summary of this portion of his history. He justly remarks that "History is a wonderful organisation, no part of which can be retrenched. To confine the history of a people within the space of a few years, or even of a century, would deprive that history both of truth and life. We might, indeed, have traditions, chronicles, and legends, but there would be no history. To understand the present we must know the past." These canons of criticism are sound; for history is a lengthened chain; and if any of the links are lost, they can only be supplied by uncertain tradition or ingenious conjecture, and then we enter upon the domain of the vague, the speculative, and the deceptive. In all historical studies it greatly facilitates the labour of the student, if distinct and characteristic epochs are presented clearly to his view; for thus he more clearly seizes the peculiar features of those transition periods which separate one era from another, and stamp upon each its distinguishing impress. This method D'Aubigné has adopted. "Before the sixteenth century," he observes, "this Church (of England) had passed through two great phases: the first was that of its formation; the second, that of its corruption. In its formation it was Oriento-Apostolical; in its corruption it was successively national-Papistical and Royal-Papistical. After these two degrees of decline came the last and great phase of the Reformation."

Commerce was the instrument by which Christianity was first introduced into these islands. Vessels frequently reached the shores of Britain from the ports of Asia Minor, Greece, Alexandria, and the Greek colonies in Gaul. Many of the merchants who made these trading voyages, were acquainted with the history and doctrines of Jesus of Nazareth, and imparted their knowledge to the natives so early as the second century of the Christian era. Then simple churches rose, formed after the eastern type, in those mountains, forests, and western isles where Druidism had long held exclusive sway. Native preachers arose. Succat, better known as St. Patrick, was born near Glasgow, and established his fame in Ireland; while Columba, another Scotchman, founded the missionary college of Iona. "The sages of Iona," writes D'Aubigné, "knew nothing of transubstantiation, or of the withdrawal of the cup in the Lord's Supper, or of auricular confession, or of prayers for the dead, or tapers, or incense; they celebrated Easter on a different day from Rome; synodal assemblies regulated the affairs of the Church, and the papal supremacy was unknown. The sun of the Gospel shone upon these wild and distant shores." At Bangor, also, in North Wales, there was a Christian community, numbering, it is said, three thousand souls, and forming one of the chief centres of British Christianity; and it is certain that the missionary bishops of Britain traversed the Low Countries, Gaul, Switzerland, Germany, and even Italy. Here, then, we have historical evidence that Christianity was known and taught in Britain for centuries before the arrival of Augustine, who was sent to these islands in the year 597 by Pope Gregory, who has been styled "the last of the good and the first of the bad" Pontiffs of Rome.

At this era the Papal invasion commences. Augustine began the spiritual and temporal conquest of Britain, which it took the whole of the seventh century to accomplish. The Saxon Pagan soldiers razed Bangor to the ground. The monastery at Whitby, in Yorkshire, yielded to the sophism that the Pope was the successor of St. Peter, to whom the keys were given by our Lord; and, after a protracted resistance, Iona fell; its priests received the Latin tonsure; and Scotland bent the knee to Rome. But in the eighth century another son of Scotland arose, and boldly entered his protest against Papacy. To human tradition he opposed the word of God; to clerical materialism, a Church which is the assembly of the saints; and to Pelagianism, the sovereignty of grace. He made numerous converts; Pontifical Chris-

tianity was endangered; and Boniface, Archbishop of the German Churches, went to the rescue. It is interesting to note the subtlety of disputation in those early ages, and we shall extract from D'Aubigné the main points of the controversy:—

At first Boniface confronted the Scotchman with the laws of the

Roman Church; but the latter denied the authority of these ecclesiastical canons, and refuted their contents. Boniface then put forward the decisions of various councils; but Clement replied, that if the decisions of the councils are contrary to Holy Scripture, they have no authority over Christians. The archbishop, astonished at such audacity, next had recourse to the writings of the most illustrious fathers of the Latin Church.



"THE WALK TO EMMAUS."—PAINTED BY H. WARREN.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

The above is the principal historical work in the Exhibition of the New Society of Painters in Water-Colours, and is painted by Mr. Warren, the President of the Society. The treatment is simple, but the figures are full of dignity and expression. The Saviour is clothed in a white drapery of

a rich mellow tint, and discourses with the air of Divine authority to the two disciples, who appear to be wrapt in thought and reverential aspirations. A warm glow of sunlight gives a brilliant effect to this admirable picture.

quoting Jerome, Augustine, and Gregory; but the Scotchman told him, that instead of submitting to the word of men, he would obey the word of God alone. Boniface, with indignation, now introduced the Catholic Church which, by its priests and bishops, all united to the Pope, forms an invincible unity; but, to his great surprise, his opponent maintained that there only, where the Holy Spirit dwells, can be found the spouse of Jesus Christ.

Clement was not the only opponent of Rome. Two of his countrymen, Sampson and Virgil, preached against the Pope's pretensions in central Europe; and it is worthy of record that Virgil, anticipating Galileo, had the courage to maintain that the globe was spherical, and avowed his belief in the Antipodes. For this heresy he was denounced by Boniface, and condemned at Rome. Then followed John Scot Erigena, a native of Ireland, not of Ayr in Scotland, generally known as Duns Scotus. He was a bold and independent thinker, and the first who taught philosophic rationalism. D'Aubigné thus states his creed:—

The knowledge of ourselves is the true source of religious wisdom. Every creature is a theophany—a manifestation of God; since revelation pre-supposes the existence of truth, it is this truth which is above revelation, with which man must set himself in immediate relation, leaving him at liberty to show afterwards its harmony with Scripture, and the other theophanies. We must first employ reason, then authority. Authority proceeds from reason, not reason from authority.

Alfred the Great is next introduced into the historic panorama—the founder of the University of Oxford and the translator of the Psalms of David. After his death, intellectual darkness settled thickly on Britain. Nine Anglo-Saxon Kings died in monasteries. The tax of Peter's pence was imposed; convents were multiplied; and the power of Rome was apparently consolidated. But a reaction followed. "England," says D'Aubigné, "collected her forces for a war against the Papacy—a war at one time secular and at another spiritual. William of Normandy, Edward III., Wickliffe, and the Reformation, are the four ascending steps of Protestantism in England."

Though William invaded England in the name of the Pope, from whom he had received a consecrated banner, he had determined never to be his vassal. Before he resisted the Papacy, he made sure of the submission of the English priests. He compelled Wulston, Bishop of Winchester, to give up the crozier into his own hands, and all the rest followed the example. The Conqueror then brought new priests from Normandy, and nominated them directly to the vacant benefices. He insisted that all the clergy should take an oath to him, and that all synodal decisions should receive his counter-signature. "I claim," said he, addressing the Archbishop Lanfranc, "to hold in this hand all the pastoral staffs in my kingdom;" and when the Pope ordered the priests to put away their wives, the King cancelled the order. From this reign began the struggle between the Royal and Papal prerogative. All our readers are familiar with the audacity of Becket, and the mean pusillanimity of John, who surrendered his kingdom to the Pontiff, and took an oath to him, as lord paramount. Then followed the famous Magna Charta, and we reach the epoch of political Protestantism, when the Papacy first came into collision with modern liberty, for the Barons asked, "Is it the Pope's business to regulate temporal matters?" On the Pope ordering the English Bishops to find benefices for three hundred Italians, Grosseto, Bishop of Lincoln, exclaimed that "to follow a Pope who rebels against the will of Christ, is to separate them from Christ and his body; and if ever the time should come when all men follow an erring Pontiff, great will be the apostasy. Then will true Christians refuse to obey, and Rome will be the cause of an unprecedented schism." Archbishop Bradwardine followed up these attacks, and Edward III. gave him every support and encouragement. That monarch had been galled by a remark made by one of his courtiers, who, alluding to the battle of Crecy, and the demand of the Pope to fill up two episcopal vacancies, said to the King, "France is becoming English; and, by way of compensation, England is becoming Italian." Then followed the statutes of Provisors and Præmunire, on which Fuller remarks, "If the statute of mortmain, put the Pope into a sweat, this of præmunire gave him a fit of fever." Thus, nearly two hundred years before the Reformation, England showed herself impotent of the yoke of Rome.

We have now reached the era of Wickliffe, who was forty years of age when Papal arrogance stirred England to its centre. His sermons powerfully impressed all classes, and the sentiments he had expressed were re-echoed in some remarkable debates in the House of Lords, from which we take a few extracts:—"Feudal tribute is due," said one, "only to him who can give feudal protection in return. Now can the Pope wage war to protect his fiefs?" "Is it as vassal of the Crown or as feudal superior," asked another, "that the Pope demands part of our property?" Urban V. will not accept the first of these titles. Well and good; but the English people will not acknowledge the second." "Why," said a third, "was this tribute originally granted? To pay the Pope for absolving John. His demand, then, is mere simony—a kind of clerical swindling—which the lords spiritual and temporal should indignantly oppose." "No," said another speaker, "England belongs not to the Pope. The Pope is but a man, subject to sin; but Christ is the Lord of Lords, and this kingdom is held directly and solely of Christ alone." Thus, says D'Aubigné, the lords spoke, inspired by Wickliffe. Shortly after these debates, the citizens declared that "the Pope's briefs ought to have no effect in the realm without the King's consent. Every man is master in his own house."

Wickliffe was borne along on the tide of public opinion. He felt his popularity, and determined to strengthen it by translating the Latin Bible into English. This he accomplished in defiance of the monks, who said it was heresy to speak of the Holy Scripture in the vernacular tongue. He had very powerful friends among the nobility, but none ventured to follow him when he attacked transubstantiation, which he did in the following terms:—"Since the year of our Lord 1000, all the doctors have been in error about the sacrament of the altar; except, perhaps, it may be Berengarius. How canst thou, O priest, who art but a man, make thy maker? What! the thing that grows in the fields—that ear which thou pluckest to-day shall be God to-morrow! As you cannot make the works which He made, how shall ye make Him who made the works? Woe to the adulterous generation that believeth the testimony of Innocent rather than the Gospel." At this time sprang up the sect called Lollards, or psalm-singers, from Lollen to sing. The spirit of Wickliffe's doctrines survived his death. His followers boldly declared that "every minister could administer the sacraments, and confer the cure of souls." In 1395, a petition was presented to Parliament for a general reform of the Church. "The essence of the worship which comes from the Church of Rome," said the petitioners, "consists in signs and ceremonies, and not in the efficacy of the Holy Ghost; and, therefore, it is not that which Christ has ordained. Temporal things are distinct from spiritual things; a King and a bishop ought not to be one and the same person." Richard II. threatened the reformers with death if they continued to propagate their opinions; but he was soon dethroned, and put to death by Henry of Lancaster, son of the famous Duke, who had been the principal supporter of Wickliffe among the nobility. The reformers now made confident that their hopes would be realised; but the primate Arundel, when he placed the crown on Lancaster's head, said to him, "To consolidate your throne, conciliate the clergy and sacrifice the Lollards;" and the new King, eager to show his gratitude to the priest, ordered every heretic to be burnt alive at the stake. It so happened that a pious priest, William Sawtree, was the first victim. His offence consisted in having said, "Instead of adoring the cross on which Christ suffered, I adore Christ who suffered on it." Then followed the "constitutions of Arundel," which forbade the reading of the Bible, and declared the Pope "not a mere man, but a true god." Lord Cobham next perished. He was dragged on a hurdle to St. Giles' fields, suspended by chains over a slow fire, and cruelly tortured to death. Liberty was to rise from the blood of the martyrs.

It is evident that during the long period rapidly passed under review, this country was never sincerely attached to Rome. If its doctrines were nominally admitted, they had never sunk into the hearts of kings, nobles, or commonalty, or won the feelings or affections. In all times there had been a lurking dissent and protest, and even the submission of John was a political, not a religious, act. The foreign yoke was always despised and resisted, and the claims of the Pope were never matured into a right. He was constantly regarded as an intruder, an usurper, a foreigner; and the Italians, to whom he gave English benefices, were viewed as aliens, whose footsteps polluted the soil. History, therefore, teaches us two important facts, worthy of deep attention in our days; first, that Britain was Christianised for centuries before the arrival of Augustus; secondly, that this country never formed part of the patrimony of St. Peter by any recognised or valid title, the Pope always having been considered as a pretender.

D'Aubigné then proceeds to the accession of the Tudors under Henry VII., when the revival of learning and the discovery of the art of printing came in aid of the cause of religious liberty. In this section of the history there are some delightful chapters, written in a graceful and sparkling style. We are introduced to Erasmus, Sir Thomas More, Dean Colet, founder of St. Paul's School; the famous Brandon, Duke of

Suffolk; and the youth of Henry VIII. and of Anne Boleyn. Thomas Cromwell and Wolsey also figure on the scene. Our author then places before his readers four reforming powers, and asks and answers the question, "Which reformed England?" He dissertates on Papal Reform, on Episcopal Reform, on Royal power, and on High and Low Church. "The High Church" he describes "as essentially hierarchical; the Low Church as essentially biblical. In the one, the Church is above, and the Word below; in the other, the Church is below, and the Word above. These two principles—Evangelism and Hierarchism—are found in the Christianity of the first centuries, but with a signal difference. Hierarchism then almost entirely elated Evangelism; in the age of Protestantism, on the contrary, Evangelism continued to exist by the side of Hierarchism; and it has remained—*de jure*, if not always *de facto*—the only legitimate opinion of the Church." The publication of the Testament in Greek, by Erasmus—in which labour that learned scholar had investigated the texts according to the principles of sacred criticism—and availed himself of the commentaries of the ancient fathers—produced as powerful an effect on the members of Oxford and Cambridge as the rural missionaries of Wickliffe had done on the simple people living in villages and hamlets; and the results are minutely traced through several chapters, in which Bilney, Fryth, and Tyndale occupy a prominent position. The introduction of Luther's works into England is then noticed, and the reply of Henry VIII., which earned for him the title of "Defender of the Faith." The careers of Wolsey, of Cromwell, and of Cranmer, are drawn with a discriminating hand. Indeed, every page of this instructive volume displays research, impartiality, and acute judgment; and, considering how much has been written on the subject, the reader will be agreeably surprised at the freshness and air of novelty that pervades the work. The style is excellent, simple, terse, and graphic. A stroke of the pen frequently paints a character and expounds a dogma. While the broad outlines of history are faithfully preserved and clearly exhibited, there are numerous minute delineations of individual character, which almost enable us to penetrate motives and reveal the springs of special action. We take leave of the work, warmly commanding it to the Protestant divine of all denominations, to the historical student, to the general scholar, and to those more thoughtful politicians who know how much political liberty is indebted to religious freedom.

MONTENEGRO AND THE SLAVONIANS OF TURKEY. By Count VALEIRIAN KRASINSKI. Chapman and Hall.

"The Turkish difficulty" may or may not be adjusted for the moment; but it arose out of the weakness and decrepitude of the Ottoman empire, and the half-spontaneous, half-instigated commotion of its heterogeneous populations. That empire is growing more and more decrepit by the day and by the hour; and those populations are becoming more openly and more fiercely hostile to the nominal power which still strives to compress their increasing strength and increasing discontent within its racked and shattered frame. The "Turkish crisis" may or may not be temporarily evaded; but it was, or is, a crisis of such a nature that it could find its proximate and more immediate occasion in Montenegro; and Montenegro is still there. Montenegro seems of but slight account geographically, but that country represents the influence by which two great powers act on Turkey; an influence nursed, fostered, managed, and employed from abroad; and yet so strong and vital in itself, that, even without any external encouragement, without any factitious support, it must have proved far more than a match for Islamism in a very few years. Montenegro represents the Greek race and religion, the Greek power: not the Greek power such as it was amid the disorders of the Lower Empire, and in the days of Byzantine degeneracy; not such as it was when, on the 29th of May, 1453, Constantine Palaeologus was trampled in the breach of his capital by the feet of the victorious hordes of Mahomet II.; not such as it may appear at present in the little kingdom of Greece: not the Greek power in such circumstances as these, nor that Greek power at all; but another power under the same name, wielding the energies of a fierce and warlike race, which numbers more than ninety millions of souls, and is united by the bonds of one fanatical superstition. This is the power which yearns and strains to set up its throne at the Golden Horn, and which is now menacing the Ottoman Empire not only from without, but from within; and of this power Montenegro is at once a striking representative, and an advanced stronghold.

Montenegro, or the Black Mountain, so called by the Venetians, on account of the appearance of its hills, dark with forests of pine, is curiously situated. On the west, between it and the Adriatic, there is a narrow strip of Austrian territory; while on the north, south, and east, Turkey, with its provinces of Albania and Herzegovina, surrounds this little fastness of predatory freedom and martial independence. Though not more than about 60 English miles long by 35 broad, Montenegro is so mountainous and rugged a country, and is peopled by a race so warlike and unbending, that all the power of the Ottoman empire, even in other and far different days, could never succeed in really subduing it. The inhabitants can muster more than thirty thousand armed men, in case of a defensive war.

Count Valerian Krasinski, in the work before us, treats with considerable detail the interesting subject of this country, and of the Slavonians of Turkey in general. When the present condition of that empire is borne in mind, such a work will be allowed to be opportune and valuable; and, as the author understands his subject, and throws sufficient light upon it, he deserves to receive attention from the public. The greater portion of the account which he here gives of that mighty Slavonian race who form the most numerous class in the population of European Turkey, a majority of the population of the Austrian empire, and nearly the whole population of Russia, has already been published in the "British and Foreign Quarterly Review." It is, however, likely that now it will be perused with avidity by all who have not seen it before, and consulted again by those who have. Independently of the vast interests connected with the future destiny of Turkey, the coming re-settlement of the continent of Europe (a re-settlement which cannot be very long delayed), and the part reserved for the Slavonian race itself to play hereafter—besides these important interests, we say, which invest Count Krasinski's work with peculiar attraction, there is much amusement to be got from his pages. They teem with illustrative anecdotes and humorous sketches, with characteristic sayings and doings, with effective descriptions, and with very entertaining narratives.

Having given to Montenegro the chief part of his little volume, the author surveys the general condition of the Turkish Slavonians. To Servia, to Bosnia, and to Bulgaria, he devotes separate and special chapters. The whole theme is treated with unquestionable ability, and with ample historical learning and statistical information. Naturally the eye turns, at the close of such a work, towards Russia; and our author's observations on that power are full of sense, and well borne out by his own arguments. His concluding words are worth quoting:—

Russia probably does not meditate any immediate attempt against Turkey; but, even were this the case, she would scarcely attempt to take possession of Constantinople, unless any serious difference between France and England paved the way to such a bold step. Her policy would be to establish over the Slavonians of Turkey a direct or indirect dominion; and the latter would be no less effectively accomplished should a part of these Slavonians pass under the authority of Austria. She would thus make a near approach to Constantinople, come into immediate contact with the Greeks, outflank Austria, and establish a direct influence on the Slavonians of that country, which would place the Cabinet of Vienna in a state of dependence on Russia.

Many politicians in Western Europe imagine that Russia is a colossus upon feet of clay; that her defective administration, imperfect civilisation, immense extent of territory, and want of communication, are such sources of weakness that her power is more imaginary than real. Undoubtedly, these are to a large extent elements of weakness, but they are evils by no means irremediable. Her defective administration may be improved by politic reforms, her imperfect state of civilisation renders her population only the more docile to the will of the Autocrat, whilst the inventions of modern science may reduce incalculably the immense distances of her territory, and more than double her material resources. She will connect the most important points of her empire by railways and electric telegraphs; and the necessary means for constructing these she will find at the Exchange of London.

We can conscientiously advise the perusal of Count Krasinski's lucubration, reprint though it be. It is a timely and complete elucidation of a subject too little comprehended, and a help towards the solution of one of the most momentous questions in modern politics.

THE VALE OF LANHERNE, and other Poems. By H. SEWELL STOKES. A New Edition, with Additions; and Illustrations, drawn on stone, by C. H. Agar, from Designs by J. G. Philp. London: Longman.

A happy temperament is a blessed possession, and ought to qualify the true poet—for cheerfulness is one of the first attributes of the Muse. It is the most conspicuous element, indeed, in the Homeric poems. This temperament Mr. Stokes evidently owns, and, in fact, owns to; for, rela-

tively to the rural life which he describes, both in the didactic and lyrics before us, he confesses to a kind of optimism which paints it to his imagination, and observation also, in the hues of felicity. He entertains, he tells us, none of the fears of the Malthusians; and the visions of Ebenezer Elliott are strangers to his experience. The strong contrasts so powerfully exhibited in the poem of "The Splendid Village" exist not, he testifies, in the pastoral districts with which he is acquainted; neither is he afraid, with Goldsmith, that emigration will cause them to be deserted. For local evils, local benevolence is with him the panacea; and the distinction between rich and poor the means for its development.

The reader will find descriptions in this poem of much grace and power. The vale of Lanherne is in Cornwall, and here it is we are taught that the happy state of peasantry exists with which the poet is so well satisfied. He has looked on the objects which he delineates so favourably until he has loved them; and his partiality is to be attributed to that long acquaintance which endears the familiar to the heart and mind.

The occasional pieces are likewise of merit. They, for the most part, exhibit great ease and power of versification, with an originality of thought and imagery which entitle them to more than ordinary rank. The illustrations are worthy of the text; and the whole must needs form a pleasant gift-book to those who may feel themselves associated, whether in fact or fancy, with the scenes and modes of life that form the subject of these picturesque stanzas—those of the main composition in the Spenserian form, which is ably mastered; and the more occasional subjects in a variety of skilfully-adapted lyrical measures.

The mariner's life, as led on the Cornwall coasts, seems to have peculiar charms for our poet; and his verse frequently is redolent of the sea-breeze, and strong with sailor feeling—a sentiment which inspires with force many an ode to be found in this handsome volume.

THE BOOK OF THE GARDEN. By CHARLES M'INTOSH, F.R.P.S., &c. Vol. I. Blackwood and Sons.

The literature of gardening has made most important advances since the commencement of the career of the late Mr. Loudon; and this result may be said to have been, in a great measure, achieved by his efforts, as his *Gardener's Magazine*, "Arboretum Britannicum," "Encyclopaedia of Plants," "Encyclopaedia of Gardening," and numerous other works, bear ample testimony. The "Book of the Garden" is one of the cyclopedian class, partaking much of the character of Loudon's Encyclopedias, but with the information very completely brought down to the present time. This explains and justifies, in great measure, what we should otherwise have considered objectionable in the execution of the work, namely, the great extent of quotation from contemporary periodical literature. The volume now before us, a goodly tome, treats only of the constructive part of the science, all detailed explanations of practical cultivation being reserved for another volume; whilst the history of gardening, which had been already fully chronicled by Loudon, is very wisely altogether omitted from the design of the book, except in so far as the details of its existing condition in this country will form in reality an ample chronicle of its present state and progress.

Though the history of gardening is not formally treated, yet the subject is briefly sketched in an introductory chapter, in which, commencing with the gardens of sacred history, the author travels hurriedly through those of classic times, onwards to the present era. In this portion of the book is an allusion to the hanging gardens of the ancients, a subject which, in the present day of Assyrian discovery, possesses more than usual interest:—

The celebrated hanging-gardens of Babylon furnish us with the first notice of terraces being introduced into gardens; and, although Herodotus and others are silent on the subject, it is not improbable that these terraces had their mural decorations of parapets, vases, &c., as we learn that they were planted with trees of various kinds, arranged in rows, on the side of the ascent, as well as on the top. The terraces and groves contained fountains, seats, parterres, and banqueting-rooms, and combined the minute beauties of flowers and foliage with masses of shade and extensive prospects.

The existence of such gardens—evidencing, indeed, the imperial greatness of their founders—has been altogether doubted; but, among the many important discoveries of Mr. Layard, is a slab, found at Kouyunjik, which bears a rude representation of one of the Assyrian hanging-gardens, and thus entirely dispels the doubt of their having existed. They appear, in fact, to have been vast terraced slopes, and served admirably to relieve the monotony of the Eastern plains.

The burden of the volume under notice relates specially to the formation and arrangement of culinary and fruit gardens, the construction of horticultural buildings, and the laying out of flower-gardens. In treating of these subjects, the author discourses largely on such matters as the extent, plan, form, situation, and soil proper for a garden; the construction, aspect, and materials of garden walls; the construction, heating, ventilation, &c., of all kinds of garden structures, from the conservatory and forcing-house, to the fruit-room and ice-house; and the designing, laying out, planting, and artistic arrangement of flower gardens; together with all such architectural adjuncts, as fountains, vases, statues, and the like. On these, and a variety of kindred subjects—which, in so comprehensive a subject as that of gardening, are necessarily interwoven with them—we find good evidence of industry and discrimination in the notice which has been taken of all the important suggestions of the present day, and the sensible and matter-of-fact statements of their merits and applicability. The author's extensive practical every-day experience, becomes here a valuable aid to those who may consult his opinions before indulging in the expensive refinements of the gardener's art.

Perhaps, in no department of gardening is there room for greater improvements than in the designing, and especially in the interior arrangement of glazed structures for the growth of plants, whether they require to be artificially heated or not. The Crystal Palace has already done something towards the direction of the public mind to this subject; and the re-erection of that building at Sydenham is destined, we cannot doubt, to do much more by setting a notable example how formality and monotony may be for ever banished from these scenes of the purest and most enjoyable of all domestic recreations—greenhouses or conservatories. Mr. M'Intosh has quoted on this subject some anonymous remarks by the writer of this notice, in which, referring to the ridge-and-furrow plan of constructing glass-houses, which the Hyde-park building has now familiarised to all, it was predicted some years since that this plan was destined to subvert the present monotonous and unsatisfactory arrangements followed in the interior of such structures, by facilitating the covering of larger areas of ground, in which the necessity of adopting some different style of arrangement must necessarily lead to improvements:—

Gardens (it was said) would lose half their charms were we to see the same things imaged everywhere. It is, in fact, in the endless variety, in connection with intrinsic beauty, of which they admit, that their fascinations rest. And why should it not be so with horticultural erections for the growth of exotic vegetation? Why should these, which are to a certain extent invested with the additional charm of rarity, be deprived of the charm of variety? Why should we not have groves, and lakes, and flower-gardens, and rocks, and caverns, with their appropriate vegetation, within as well as without? In the former case their beauties would be available either for admiration or study at all seasons; in the latter the fickleness of our climate often acts as a preventive to both these exercises.

The system of heating horticultural buildings by hot water is very fully treated, and most abundantly illustrated with diagrams; and great prominence is also given to the equally-important subject of ventilation, which is now receiving more of the attention which it merits, at the hands of gardeners, than has hitherto been the case. These are matters, in reference to which the great improvements which have of late years been effected in mechanical science have led to important changes since the time of Loudon.

One of the greatest achievements in modern horticulture, was the invention of close-glazed cases for plants, by Mr. Ward, whose name is so honourably and justly perpetuated in connection with them. These Wardian cases have not only rendered practicable the cultivation of plants in the worst possible localities, e.g. the murky courts of a smoky city, but they have proved of the utmost value, both in importing to this country the flowers and fruits of other lands, and in transporting the most valuable vegetable products to countries where they have proved of inestimable value. The Wardian case, while enclosing around the plants a properly moistened atmosphere, shuts out extraneous and injurious agents; and this, simple as it is, is the whole secret of their success. Mr. M'Intosh has very properly drawn attention to these contrivances, which are not by any means so commonly known as they should be; for indeed, confining attention to their influence on domestic comforts, there is not a window in London which could not be made cheerful with its enclosed garden, nor a sitting-room which might not be decorated with choice flowers by the application of this principle. The following quotation describing an admirable contrivance of this kind for the preservation of cut flowers is very judiciously introduced:—

A flat dish, of porcelain, had water poured into it. In the water a vase of flowers was set; over the whole a bell-glass was placed, with its rim in the water. This was a Ward's case in principle, though different in construction. The air that surrounds the flowers being confined beneath the bell-glass was constantly moist with the water that rose in it in the form of vapour. As fast as the water is condensed it runs down the sides of the bell-glass back into the dish; and if means are taken to enclose the water on the outside of the bell-glass, so as to prevent its evaporating into the air of the sitting-room, the atmosphere around the flower would remain continually damp. What is the explanation of this? Do the flowers feed on the viewless vapour that surrounds them? Perhaps they do; but the great cause of their preserving their freshness is to be sought in another fact. When flowers are brought into a sitting-room they fade, because of the dryness of the air. The air of a sitting-room is usually something drier than that of the garden, and always much more so than that of a good green-house or stove. Flowers, when gathered, are cut off from the supply of moisture collected for them by their roots; and their mutilated stems are far from having so great a power of sucking up fluids as the roots have. If, then, with diminished powers of feeding, they are exposed to augmented perspiration, as is the case in a dry sitting-room, it is evident that the balance of the gain and of the loss cannot be maintained. The result can only be their destruction. Now, to place them in a damp atmosphere is to restore this balance; hence they maintain their freshness.

This, in reality, exhibits the whole rationale of preserving cut flowers; and every lady who takes pleasure in having flowers in her room would do well to remember and apply it.

Mr. McIntosh's chapter on horticultural buildings is very ample; and in reference to the details of construction, is much more complete than any gardening book we know. Indeed we consider this much the best part of the volume before us.

We have only glanced briefly at a few of the outlying subjects, the limits of this notice not permitting even a full enumeration of the contents of the volume. Enough will, however, have been stated to indicate its general tenor, and at the same time to bear evidence that Mr. McIntosh does not affect fine writing. The value of the book lies rather in the sound practical conclusions which a long life of active experience has enabled him to draw; its merit in this respect is so great that, as a whole, we have no hesitation in placing "The Book of the Garden" in the highest niche of garden literature.

The volume before us, we may just state in conclusion, is very nicely printed in a bold, legible type; and is profusely illustrated with upwards of a thousand excellent wood-engravings, by Branston, and thirty-three copper-plate engravings by Johnston.

JOURNAL OF A CRUISE AMONG THE ISLANDS OF THE WESTERN PACIFIC, including the Feejees and others inhabited by the Polynesian Negro Races, in her Majesty's ship *Havannah*. By JOHN ELPHINSTONE ERSKINE, Captain R.N. With Maps and Plates. John Murray.

The *Havannah*, a small frigate, sailed from the Bay of Islands in New Zealand on June 25, 1849; and, proceeding north-easterly, called first at the Niue, or Savage Island, situated about 19 deg. south latitude, and between 169 deg. and 170 deg. of west longitude. The people there—as the island is small, and lies out of the way of traffic, though it is occasionally visited by ships—are still in a very barbarous condition. They seem scarcely worthy of the attention of missionaries, whose zeal makes them brave the very worst kind of death. Having been in Captain Cook's time considered more completely savage than the inhabitants of any of the other islands, they still remain less changed by the influence of their European neighbours. On the ship approaching the island they went off in their canoes; and, seeing the telescopes of the officers directed towards them, probably took them for firearms, and made signs to have them put away. That being done, they boldly ventured on board, and bartered spears and other weapons for anything like cloth, with which they could cover their heads. The only provision they had with them was for their own refreshment—a sign that ships do not visit them very often. They were frightened at a dog, and had probably never seen such an animal before. They knew well, however, the use of iron; and one of them stole a chisel. Generally, they were honest; and, when anything was given them, they invariably gave one or two spears in exchange. They use a language like that of the New Zealanders, and they, no doubt, belong to the same race. The *Havannah* could not anchor at the island, nor did any of her officers or any of her crew go on shore. This is rather tantalizing, as the people are considered to retain more of their pristine habits than any of their neighbours. The information concerning them is, accordingly, very meagre; which is the more to be regretted, as all the other places visited by the *Havannah* are much more frequented by ships than Niue Island; are inhabited by missionaries; and are better known to Europeans than are the people of this out-of-the-way little place.

From thence the *Havannah* proceeded on a stately kind of man-of-war visitation to the Samoa or Navigators' Islands and the Tonga or Friendly Islands, which were made so well known more than thirty years ago. From the Friendly Islands the *Havannah* proceeded to the Feejee group, the people of which are still, though undergoing a rapid change, not a little savage; and thence to the New Hebrides; afterwards to the Loyalty Islands; and, after visiting New Caledonia, proceeded to New South Wales. So was finished the first cruise of the *Havannah*. She afterwards went on a second cruise, which extended to the Solomon's Islands, and may probably cause the publication of another book, should this one be successful.

The present volume is soberly and quietly written. The total absence through the voyage of sickness amongst the crew, and of anything like unpleasant disputes with any of the natives—the temperate and orderly behaviour, both of the civilised and the uncivilised, are all testimonies to improvement amongst both. The illustrations, which are numerous, are very good, and give us excellent representations of the figures, complexions, and costumes of the inhabitants of the different islands. Including Jackson's graphic descriptions, the book is very interesting, and we should be glad to see the second cruise described as well as the first. We will copy from Jackson's "Narrative" an explanation of the custom which prevails through many countries, and has prevailed for ages, of wives being put to death on the death of their husbands, which we have not before met with, and an incident connected with the custom:—

As a chief's wives are strangled for the sake of exemplifying their fidelity and accompanying him to the invisible world, so this kind of death is often imposed upon courtiers and aides-de-camp, and always considered an honour and distinction. One reason of many, and perhaps the greatest, for strangling the wives of chiefs who have children surviving him, is that it is taken for a certain proof that these children are legitimate, and claim their rights as *vasus* to the places to which their deceased mothers belonged. If a mother neglected her husband, it would leave a doubt in the minds of the people as to her fidelity; and if any of her children were to go to the places she belonged to, and claim property as their right, the owners would immediately embrace the opportunity of upbraiding the *vasu* with his mother being an unchaste woman, and saying that they would not allow him to carry anything off, because the infidelity of his mother cut off all his claim and rights as a *vasu*, and that it was an undeniable proof of her loving some other man better than his father that she had not been buried with him. The whole thirty of Tui Kila-Kila's brother's wives wished to be strangled; but, being a little wiser than the generality of his countrymen, and not led away by the customs of his country, Tui Kila-Kila advised all who had borne children to his brother to be strangled, as a matter of course. On the other hand, he said that the young women who had borne no children had no occasion to sacrifice their lives, knowing that they would make himself very good wives, and add greatly to his advantage—the greatness of a chief being estimated, in a measure, by the number of his women.

Fourteen of these women readily acceded to this proposal, and, as far as I could learn, were extremely happy to escape with their lives, especially in such a reputable way in the eyes of the world, being backed by the advice and opinion of such a great prince as Tui Kila-Kila, whose infallibility dared not be questioned. But one young girl (who made up the fifteen that were to be saved, and on whose account it was always supposed, more than for any other reason, he proposed to save the others, so as to come at the object of his desire) dared to question his opinion of the propriety of living and violating the laws of betrothal, and demanded the privilege of being strangled. She asked Tui Kila-Kila where was the man she cared or was worthy of living for now that his brother was dead? Tui Kila-Kila was so piqued at this reflection on his inferiority to his deceased brother, that he ordered the two women whose office it was to strangle her to haul tight at each end of the strip of cloth previously placed round her neck, which they obeyed; and as soon as she began to show symptoms of agony he ordered them to slacken it, thinking, as she had tasted partially the pangs of death, she would repent of her foolishness; but with her it was different, for she seized the ends and began hauling tight again, so as to complete what the stranglers had begun; and then the chief was satisfied with her foolish obstinacy, as he called it, and told the women to settle her quickly. This young woman was renowned for her beauty, and certainly she must have been as completely so as possible for a human being to be, except that she was not white—if that has anything to do with it—because, when I pointed out symmetrical forms, and asked if she was anything like them, they always said she was far superior.

A KEY TO UNCLE TOM'S CABIN. Presenting the original facts and documents upon which the story is founded; together with corroborative statements verifying the truth of the work. By HARRIET BEECHER STOWE, author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Published for the author by Sampson Lowe, and Co., Ludgate-hill.

ANOTHER COPY of the SAME WORK, published by Clarke, Beeton, and Co., Fleet-street, in which the author is said to have an interest.

The title of this work has for us the great merit of accurately describing its contents. It is really an account of the facts on which the story of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" is founded, with a great many statements, corroborative of Mrs. Stowe's picture of slave life in the United States. There are numerous extracts from journals, law-books, and private letters illustrative of the existing laws concerning slavery and its effects on the character, manners, and conditions of all classes. The work is called forth by the numerous attacks made on Mrs. Stowe by the advocates of slavery. To refute them, and to verify the incidents that form the basis of an avowedly fictitious narrative, Mrs. Stowe has published this large work, attacking slavery as it exists in America, in all its phases, and overwhelming it with evidence of its inhuman and destructive effects—showing that it debases and degrades the whites, retards the growth of skill and intelligence in the community, and places all the old slave states far in the rear of the free states. The narrative, by its thrilling interest, has just called the attention of the whole world to the subject—for never had a book an equal circulation to Mrs. Stowe's novel; and now its terrible impressions are riveted by a volume full of facts. The scathing contempt and indignation of the population of Europe already poured on the slaveholders, cannot fail to kindle, and we believe has already kindled, sentiments of burning shame in the minds of many Americans; and the improvement of a nation's morals, carrying with it a reform of an odious though very ancient institution, appears to be the coming and certain result of a novel. Literature never achieved a nobler work. This is the first example, we believe, of a novel forcibly dragging politics and philosophy after it, and becoming the parent of a much-needed social improvement.

We need scarcely say, after referring to the title, that the book mentions the persons who were the originals of Uncle Tom, George Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Shelby, Eliza, Haley, Ophelia, the St. Clares, Legree; and that all the characters of the novel are sketches of real persons. In general, too, the facts collected by Mrs. Stowe are stronger and more revolting than the fiction; and some of them will match any kind of cruelties ever perpetrated in the world. We will quote only one extract:—On the 1st of September, 1849, a man by the name of Souther flogged a slave to death, because, as Souther alleged, he had got drunk, and traded with two persons, who were afterwards called to witness his punishment. The offence was thus described by Mr. Judge Field, before whom Souther was tried:—

"The negro was tied to a tree and whipped with switches. When Souther became fatigued with the labour of whipping, he called upon a negro man of his, and made him cob Sam with a shingle. He also made a negro woman of his help to cob him. And, after cobbing and whipping, he applied fire to the body of the slave. * * * * * He then caused him to be washed down with hot water, in which pods of red pepper had been steeped. The negro was also tied to a log and to the bed-post with ropes, which choked him, and he was kicked and stamped on by Souther. This sort of punishment was continued and repeated until the negro died under it's infliction."

This scene of torture, it seems, occupied about twelve hours. It occurred in the State of Virginia, in the county of Hanover. Two white men were witnesses to nearly the whole proceeding; and, so far as we can see, made no effort to arouse the neighbourhood, and bring in help to stop the outrage. What sort of an education, what habits of thought, does this presuppose in these men? The case was brought to trial. It requires no ordinary nerve to read over the counts of this indictment. Nobody, one would suppose, could willingly read them twice. One would think that it would have laid a cold hand of horror on every heart—that the community would have risen, by a universal sentiment, to shake out the man, as Paul shook the viper from his hand. It seems, however, that they were quite self-possessed; that lawyers calmly sat and examined, and cross-examined, on particulars known before only in the records of the Inquisition; that it was "ably and earnestly argued" by educated, intelligent American men, that this catalogue of horrors did not amount to a murder; and, in the cool language of legal precision, that "the offence, if any, amounted to manslaughter;" and that an American jury found that the offence was murder in the second degree. Any one who reads the indictment will certainly think that, if this be murder in the second degree, in Virginia, one might earnestly pray to be murdered in the first degree to begin with. Had Souther walked up to the man, and shot him through the head with a pistol, before white witnesses, that would have been murder in the first degree. As he preferred to spend twelve hours in killing him by torture, under the name of "chastisement," that, says the verdict, is murder in the second degree; "because," says the bill of exceptions, with admirable coolness, "it did not appear that it was the design of the prisoner to kill the slave, unless such design be properly inferable from the manner, means, and duration of the punishment."

It seems also that Souther, so far from being crushed by the united opinion of the community, found those to back him who considered five years in the Penitentiary an unjust severity for his crime; and hence the bill of exceptions from which we have quoted, and the appeal to the superior court; and hence the form in which the case stands in law-books, "Souther v. the Commonwealth." Souther evidently considers himself an ill-used man, and it is in this character that he appears before the superior court.

The case shows both the possible cruelty of individuals and the callousness of the community. The whole book is deeply imbued with religious feelings—a living faith in the doctrines of Christianity being the well-spring of all Mrs. Stowe's writings. It contains, at the same time, much philosophy and much legal lore. The narrative, or connecting parts of it, is adorned with much eloquence; and though it cannot, from its nature, interest the great multitude to the same degree as the novel, it, too, will have a large circulation, and may, with many persons, be more influential than the novel in strengthening their convictions against slavery.

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS—the Mystery of the Day. Comprising an entire History of the American Spirit Manifestations. By HENRY SPICER, Esq. Bosworth.

We are somewhat at a loss to know how to deal with this book. The first part of it is a serious account of the "rappings" and other manifestations of the spirit world in America, a continent that boasts of other novelties besides that of being a comparatively recent discovery. Another part of it is a quizzical, rhapsodical account of American newspapers, and description of a journey in the United States and Canada, meant to be amusing, and which actually contains two or three valuable anecdotes. There is also a complimentary statistical notice of Canada. But the staple of the book is the account of the rappings and the spirit manifestations, with a discussion of the theories brought forward to explain them. The conclusion is the profession of a belief "that manifestations of an *extraordinary character* are rife in the United States, and are becoming familiar in England; that demonstrations of a *similar kind* have been known *almost from time immemorial*; that the American manifestations have been closely watched, carefully investigated, and submitted to every conceivable test by persons eminently qualified to conduct such inquiries, and whose characters entitle them to the fullest credit. These have decided, amongst other things, "that the theories of animal electricity, magnetoid currents, nerve-spirit, &c., will not suffice to explain the whole phenomena while unconnected with some *independent intelligence*." Mr. Spicer, when writing seriously of the spiritual manifestations, mentions, amongst many other similar things, that "a chair which stood outside of our circle, and several feet from any one, was suddenly moved up to the circle and back, and rocked, and finally, with great rapidity, conveyed from one end of the room to the other, *winding its way among the people who sat there, without touching them, and yet at times passing with fearful rapidity within an inch or two of our persons*." "A guitar, bass-viol, and violin were played upon, each separately at first, and finally all together, in marked time, which was beat out by raps, sometimes upon the violin, floor, ceiling, &c., the bow often touching the persons there. Afterwards, the bass-viol and violin were raised above their heads, out of their reach (except one end, which sometimes rested on their hand, head, or shoulder, often changing), and in this position they were played and rapped on, as by human fingers, and the time marked as before." The persons who communicate with the spirit world are called "media;" and Mr. Spicer records that a Mr. Daniel Ilume, one of the media, "on a request being proposed that the attendant spirits would testify their presence by some *irrefragable evidence*," "was on the instant lifted into the air, and there suspended, by invisible agency, for a space of two or three minutes, without touching any thing or any body present." We cannot comprehend a believer in spirit manifestations relating such palpable tricks as spirit manifestations; and we, perhaps, shall do Mr. Spicer no injustice by classing him, in spite of

"THE BEDFORD MISSAL" IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

From the Annual Account "of the Income and Expenditure of the British Museum," just issued by order of Parliament, we are reminded that among the numerous additions during the year to the Manuscript Department is the celebrated "Bedford Missal," the companion of princes and the delight of bibliomaniacs, which has here found a worthy and (let us hope) final resting-place among the magnificent treasures of our national institution.

By the courtesy of Sir F. Madden, the Keeper of the Manuscript Department, we are this week enabled to present our readers with Engravings of two of the most interesting pages in the manuscript, which—although of necessity shorn of those brilliant adjuncts that render the pages of the book itself so attractive—present the portraits of the illustrious pair at whose command the manuscript was written.

The fifteenth century (the period at which this wonderful production first saw the light) may truly be called the "golden age" of this art of book illumination. It was then that the art of painting made rapid strides towards that perfection, to which it triumphantly attained in the succeeding century, and book-collecting began to divide with the pursuit of arms the attention of this warrior Prince of the age. No gifts were more frequent, nor more highly prized by the noble and high-born, than those of illuminated books.

In confirmation of this assertion, we need only point to the shelves of our National Library, where rest (among others) the ponderous volume of Romances, presented by Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, to Margaret, of Anjou; the fine copy of poems, by Christine de Pisa, presented by that lady, to Isabel, Queen of Charles VI., of France; the Bible of the Duke de Berri; and the beautiful Psalter presented to King Henry the VI., probably at the period of his coronation, in which the youthful King is several times represented—manuscripts deservedly famed for their brilliancy and the richness of their execution.

Amidst these the "Bedford Missal" now shines brightest, unrivalled for its colours, the delicacy of its hues, and the golden glories of its borders—"to an Englishman," says Mr. Gough, "the proudest and most interesting monument existing of the early art of book-illumination."

Of all the princes of his time, John of Lancaster, Duke of Bedford was the most accomplished, and second to none in his admiration and encouragement of the fine arts, more especially that of painting.

The most eminent French and Flemish artists found honourable employment in his service, and vied with each other in producing for him some of the most splendid books of devotion.

The volume in question is indisputably the finest that has found its way down to the present time, and was probably executed between the years 1426 and 1430, at which period the Duke governed France during the minority of his nephew, Henry VI.

In commencing a brief history of this remarkable book, we feel that we cannot do better than preface it with the following admirable description, drawn up by Mr. Evans, for the sale catalogue of Mr. Edwards's library:—

The celebrated Bedford Missal, a book of prayers and devotional offices, executed for John Duke of Bedford, Regent of France, containing 60 miniature paintings, which nearly occupy the whole page; and above a thousand small miniatures, of about an inch and a half in diameter, displayed in brilliant borders of golden foliage, with variegated flowers, &c. At the bottom of every page are two lines in blue and gold letters to explain the subject of each miniature—a circumstance, perhaps, only to be found in this expensive performance. But what enhances the value of this MS. in this country is, that it has preserved the only portraits remaining of the noble pair who formerly possessed it—John of Lancaster, Duke of Bedford, Regent of France, and Anne of Burgundy, his Duchess, interspersed with their mottoes—an elegant expression of gallantry of that time on his part, "A vous entier," and on hers, "J'en suis contente." Nothing can exceed the strength of character and high finish of the portraits. Mr. Gough has pronounced them the *finest specimens* of the art of that period he had ever seen. Vertue engraved his portrait from one of these paintings. Another interesting characteristic in this fine MS. is the attestation of its being presented by gift of a Duchess, and by order of her husband, to King Henry VI., when he went to be crowned in France, and was spending his Christmas at Rouen. This rich book is 11 inches by 7½ wide, and 2½ thick, bound in crimson velvet, with gold clasps, on which are engraved the arms of Harley, Cavendish, and Hollis, quarterly.

The book having passed into Royal hands, its history becomes for a time, somewhat obscure. Mr. Gough suggests that the King did not take it with him on his return to England, but left it in his palace at Rouen; and that it fell, with the King's treasures, into the hands of Charles VII. of France, upon the capture of that place in 1448. Certain it is that it afterwards came into the possession of Henry II. of France, who caused his arms, with those of Catherine de Medicis, his Queen, to be inscribed in the early part of the volume.

From this time until the beginning of the eighteenth century (a period of nearly 200 years), the fate of our manuscript is uncertain; and we next find it in the hands of Sir Robert Worsley, of Appuldurcombe, in the Isle of Wight, Bart., to whose lady it had descended from her mother, Lady Frances Finch, who had married Thomas Thynne, 1st Viscount Weymouth, by whom it had been purchased in France for £100.

In the diary of Humphrey Wanley, librarian to Edward Harley, 2nd Earl of Oxford, one of the greatest collectors of his time, are the following notes:—"3rd May, 1715. The Secretary related that the fine Prayer-book, which the late Lord Weymouth bought at the price of £100, is now come into the possession of Sir Robert Worsley, who (having been asked) is willing to sell it to my Lord at the same price." And again:—"6th May, 1712. My Lord Harley was pleased to order that the Primer above-mentioned be re-delivered to Mr. Harby for Sir Robert Worsley, it being judged too dear at £100."

Nevertheless, it was afterwards purchased by Lord Harley from Lady Worsley, but for what sum does not appear; and by his Lordship two leaves were added at the beginning, which contain the arms of Harley and Holles quarterly.

From this nobleman it descended to his daughter the Duchess of Portland, in whose possession it remained until the 24th May, 1786, upon which day it again changed hands, being purchased by Mr. Edwards, bookseller, of Pall-mall, at the sale of the Duchess's gems and pictures, for the sum of £213 3s.

But, although it passed into the hands of a less noble possessor, it was not without a contention with Royalty for the prize.

His Majesty King George III. gave (according to some accounts) unlimited commission to the learned Jacob Bryant, to bid for the book, intending to make a present of it to the College of Eton, as having belonged to its founder, Henry VI. But, according to other, and probably more accurate information, Queen Charlotte limited the commission to £200, expressing it as her opinion that it was extravagant to give more than that sum for a book.

Mr. Edwards seems to have truly appreciated the gem he had acquired, having bravely withheld several very tempting offers for it; and it was not until his death that it was again brought to the hammer, at the sale of his library, the 5th of April, 1815.

We now find another noble competitor in the field, in the person of the late Duke of Marlborough, then Marquis of Blandford, who became its fortunate owner for the sum of £687 15s. The circumstances of the contest have been so graphically described by Dibdin, in his "Decameron" (Vol. I., p. cxxxvi.), that we have extracted the paragraph for the amusement of our readers. After alluding to Mr. Evans's description, as given above, Dr. Dibdin proceeds:—



THE ILLUMINATION TO FIRST PART OF BOOK.—“THE DUKE OF BEDFORD.”

“THE BEDFORD MISSAL,” RECENTLY REUNITED TO THE HARLEIAN COLLECTION OF MANUSCRIPTS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

exactly known; rumour says for £800. Mr. Milner disposed of it to John Broadley, Esq., F.S.A.; and at the sale of that gentleman's library, on the 19th of June, 1833, it was purchased by Mr. Cochran, the bookseller, on commission, for Sir John Tobin, alderman of Liverpool, for the sum of 1000 guineas. In the year 1838 it became the property (by gift) of the Rev. John Tobin, M.A., incumbent of Liscard, near Liverpool, who sold it in January last, together with other splendid manuscripts, including the “Hours of Queen Isabella of Spain,” by Joan, wife of Philip the Fair, Archduke of Austria, and of Francis I. of France, to Mr. W. Boone, bookseller, of Bond-street.

That gentleman, deeming the National Library to be the proper repository for such treasures, immediately offered them to the trustees, and the whole have become the property of the nation for the princely sum of £3000.

Having thus traced, as far as possible, the chequered history of this interesting monument of the middle ages, we will bring our notice to a close, with a brief description of the engravings upon the present page.

The Duke is here represented kneeling within a chapel, with hands raised in the attitude of prayer, before St. George, attired in a red robe, richly embroidered with gold and furred at the neck and sleeves, which are black. Round the neck a rich collar, with a falcon volant appendant, and upon his head, which is close shaved, a small furred cap. The saint is depicted standing completely armed, with a

nimbus around his head; over the armour is worn the mantle of the Order of St. George, lined with ermine, secured in front by a cordon, with the Garter on the left shoulder, and beneath the mantle a surcoat emblazoned with the arms of that saint. Behind him stands his armour-bearer, with his arms upon a pennon. The desk in front of the Duke is covered with a cloth, embroidered with his badge—viz. the roots of a tree, paly or, and his motto, “A vous entier,” between them. The tapestry covering the walls of the chapel is ornamented in a similar manner.

The Duchess, attired in a robe also richly embroidered with gold, with the mitred head-dress so characteristic of the period, richly adorned with roses and pearls, reticulated at the ears, and wearing a necklace of pearls, is represented kneeling before her patron Saint, St. Anne, habited in a veil and wimple, by whose side is the child Jesus, holding a globe; and, between them, a young female saint—by a strange anticipation—representing the Virgin Mary, her daughter, crowned with a crown surmounted by five crosses. Behind her, an ancient chair, upon the back of which leans a venerable figure, probably representing the illuminator of the MS. himself. The back of the chair and the hangings of the chapel are embroidered with flowers, and the motto, “J'en suis contente.” In the background over the hangings are four angels playing on musical instruments; and on the vaulted roof of the chapel are two more angels, looking down upon the group beneath.

In the original MS., these paintings are inclosed within handsome borders, formed of the badges and mottos before-mentioned, with small paintings of the martyrdoms of various saints, &c., and in the lower margin are introduced the arms of the Duke and Duchess, respectively.

To those of our readers who are desirous of learning more respecting this splendid MS., we would recommend a book published by Gough, entitled “An account of a rich illuminated Missal executed for John, Duke of Bedford,” &c., &c. London, 1794, 4to, where an elaborate description of the curious treasure will be found.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE REV. DR. JEREMIE.

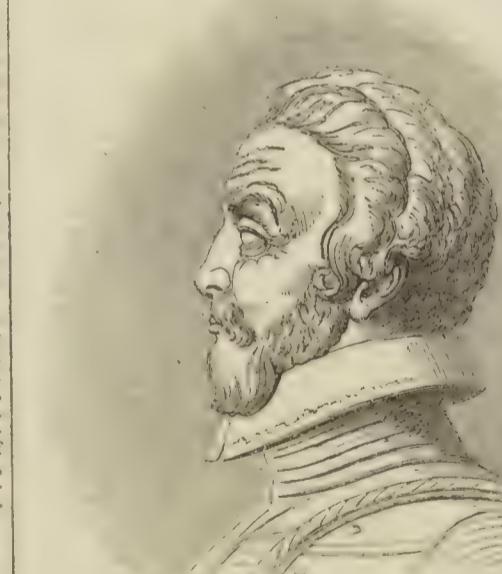
This splendid testimonial, designed and manufactured by Messrs. Garrard, of the Haymarket, has just been presented by the Hon. East India Company to the Rev. Dr. Jeremie. The cup is silver gilt, 17 inches high, and embossed and chased in the Albert Durer style; weight, 100 ounces. The salver (weight 190 ounces) is 25 inches in diameter, and has a richly-chased border, inclosing the following inscription:

To the Rev. JAMES AMI-AUX JEREMIE, D.D., Regius Professor of Divinity in the University of Cambridge, this silver and cup are presented by the Court of Directors of the Honorable East India Company in acknowledgment of the high sense which they entertain of his long, zealous, and valuable services while he held the office of Dean and Professor

of Classics in the College of the Honorable East India Company at Haileybury, and in testimony of their respect for his character as a distinguished Scholar and Divine.

HEAD OF SIR THOMAS LUCY.

MANY who took part in the festal celebration of the natal day of Shakespeare, on Tuesday week, at Stratford-upon-Avon, are doubtless familiar with Charlecote, a short distance from the town of Stratford, and one o



“HEAD OF SIR THOMAS LUCY,” FROM THE TOMBS AT CHARLECOTE.

the early haunts of our great dramatic poet. Perchance, a few “pilgrims” strayed from the festivity to inspect the beautiful new church, which, by the munificence of Mrs. Lucy, has been erected in place of the ancient church upon the verge of Charlecote Park. Here, as we stated in our Journal of February 19 last (wherein the Church is engraved), the beautiful monument, by Bernini, of Sir Thomas Lucy, has been enshrined in the Lucy Chapel; and, during a recent visit, a lady Correspondent (Miss Cole) sketched the head of the recumbent effigies of the grim old Knight, who, with his lady, is elaborately sculptured in statuary marble, and placed under an arched canopy. The head (which we have engraved) is a fine specimen of monumental sculpture.

The Shakspearian Festival of the 26th ult. we have illustrated in the Number published with the present Supplement; and now, to quote the very interesting paper upon the Shakspearian sites, in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, No. 281, “you retrace your steps (from Charlecote), cross again the little bridge, and are soon once more beneath the stately avenue of elms. Their lengthening shadows, and a far-off bell (which may have often struck upon the poet's ear), now warn you of declining day. You hasten on; and, as the eye, at the turn of the road, for the last time takes in the antique house, the gentle river, and the lessening turrets of the village church, you muse upon the undying influence of the wizard who is enabled ‘thus to spread the magic of his mind over the very face of Nature: to give to things and places a charm and character not their own; and to turn this working-day world into a perfect fairy-land.’”



PLATE PRESENTED TO DR. JEREMIE, BY THE HON. EAST INDIA COMPANY.

HARLAXTON-HALL.

LINCOLNSHIRE is rich in architectural antiquities, and one of the most striking of the domestic class is Harlaxton Manor-house, situated in a remote corner of the beautiful village of Harlaxton, about three miles from Grantham. The mansion is said to have been originally built by John of Gaunt. Portions of the structure are so dilapidated a condition, that it is almost considered dangerous to examine them. The entrance-hall contains some portraits, chiefly of the Gregory family, who have possessed the estate for ages past. In the noble rooms are various articles of old furniture, armour flags, and a stone coffin, found in the neighbourhood some years since. Many curiosities have been dug up in the grounds—particularly an urn, containing burnt bones and coins; and a helmet set with jewels, now in the Cabinet at Madrid. The house contains some splendid paintings. Several of the windows are filled with painted glass; and there is a curious tapestry-room. A few yards from the hall, in what appears formerly to have been the park, are two stones, embedded in the earth, twenty-one feet apart, with the date 1623 on one of them, marking the place and extent of an extraordinary leap by one of the domestics, which he performed, it is said, for a wager, and which caused his death a few days afterwards.

A great portion of the ancient building is covered with luxuriant foliage; and the crumbling structure seems, in places, almost held together by thick ivy and clustering trees. The estate is the property of Gregory Gregory, Esq., who has been building near his ancient family seat a princely mansion, which has occupied nearly twenty years, and, it is said, has cost the proprietor from £8000 to £10,000 a year. The new mansion—which we have engraved, from a sketch by a Correspondent—is now approaching completion. It is in the Jacobean style of architecture, and has numerous bay-windows, with pierced parapets; entrance porches, supported by columns; turrets with cupolas at the angles; and a larger tower, picturesque gables, and chimney shafts, such as characterise the "proper house" of the English gentleman. Our Correspondent describes the splendid edifice as rivalling in grandeur of scale and beauty of detail, Belvoir Castle, which crowns the opposite height.

MASK OF SIR ISAAC NEWTON.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

In the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, for the 23rd of April, I observed a notice of the manner in which the Royal Society of London had acquired possession of what you very justly consider a most valuable relic—namely, a mask from the face of Sir Isaac Newton.

It has occurred to me, that from the account given in your interesting Journal of the manner by which the Royal Society became possessed of this relic, and from the circumstance of its being (as therein described) much injured by rough usage, it might not be altogether uninteresting to that learned body to be informed that the Hunterian Museum of Glasgow College is in possession of a similar mask, in a state of as perfect preservation as when first taken from the face of the illustrious deceased philosopher.

This cast I received upon the 16th day of July, 1819, from the hands of Mr. Flaxman, upon the occasion of his being in Glasgow for the purpose of superintending the erection of the bronze statue of Sir John Moore—the said mask to be deposited in the Hunterian Museum.

I think it will be still further interesting to subjoin the history recorded in his own handwriting, and attached to the mask, of the manner in which it became the property of Mr. Flaxman himself:—"This cast from the face of Sir Isaac Newton was the property of Mr. Rubiliac, the sculptor, from which he executed the marble statue in Trinity College, Cambridge. After Mr. Rubiliac's death, it passed into the hands of my father, from whom I received it. (Signed) JOHN FLAXMAN, R.A.P.S."—I remain, &c.,

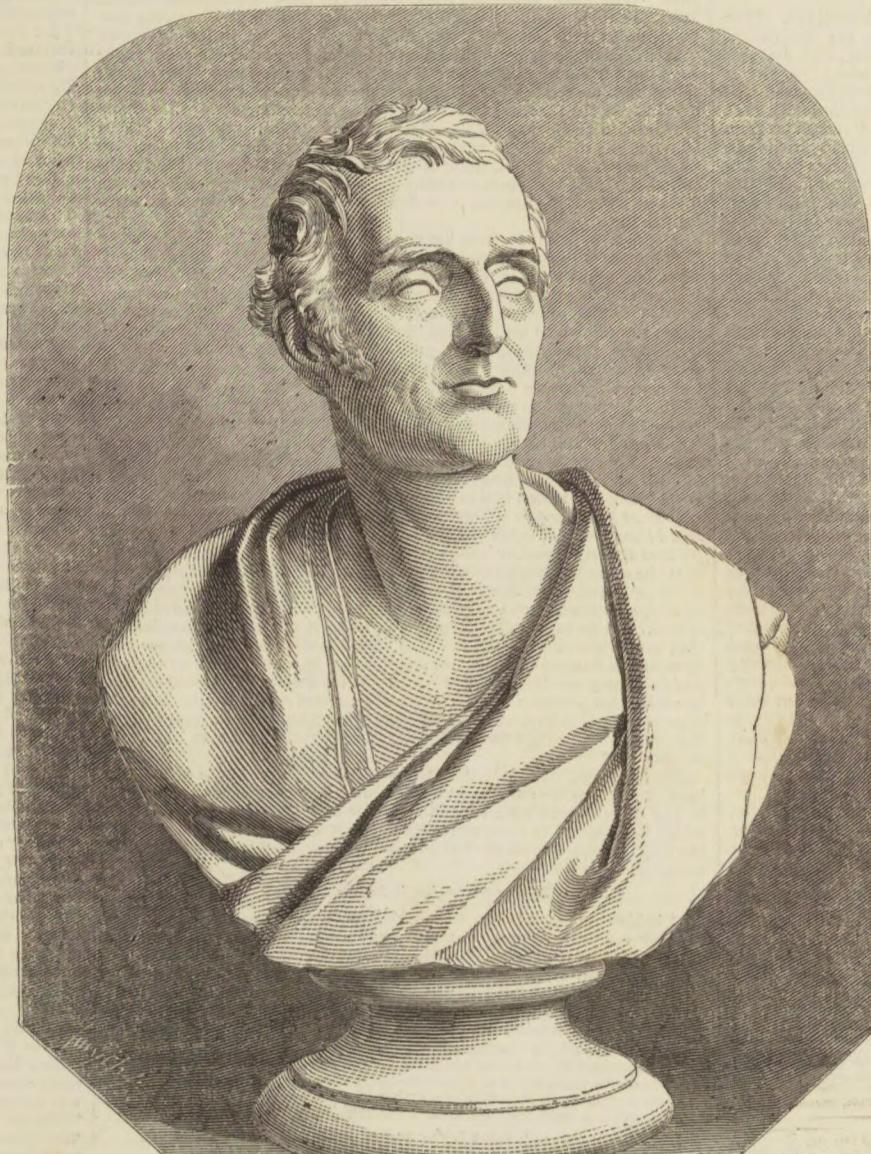
WILLIAM COUPER,
Professor of Natural History, and Custodian of
Hunter's Museum.
Glasgow College, May 1, 1853.

Fine Arts.

BUST OF THE LATE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

BY E. W. WYON.

THIS fine bust has been beautifully executed in parian by Messrs. Josiah Wedgwood and Sons, Etruria, Staffordshire. In this model it has been the sculptor's object to represent the Great Duke somewhat past the time of the battle of Waterloo, but before age had depressed his manly figure. Hence the difference between this and many of the representations lately published. The likeness in Mr. Wyon's bust is admirable; and it is altogether a superior work of art.



BUST OF THE LATE DUKE OF WELLINGTON, BY E. W. WYON.

THE "ARCTIC COUNCIL." By STEPHEN PEARSE, Esq. Messrs. Graves and Co. have just published an engraving, by Scott, from a highly-interesting historical group picture, entitled the "Arctic Council." This picture was painted by Mr. Stephen Pearce for Mr. Barrow, of the Admiralty; and, as its name implies, represents the principal commanders and men of note who have taken active part in the researches after a supposed North-Western Passage, assembled at the Admiralty, and discussing the plan of the search to be made for Sir John Franklin and his brave comrades. As a work of art the picture is entitled to high commendation, being full of spirit and character, whilst the individual portraits are, we believe, of unimpeachable truthfulness. Around the table—some seated, some standing—are Captain Sir

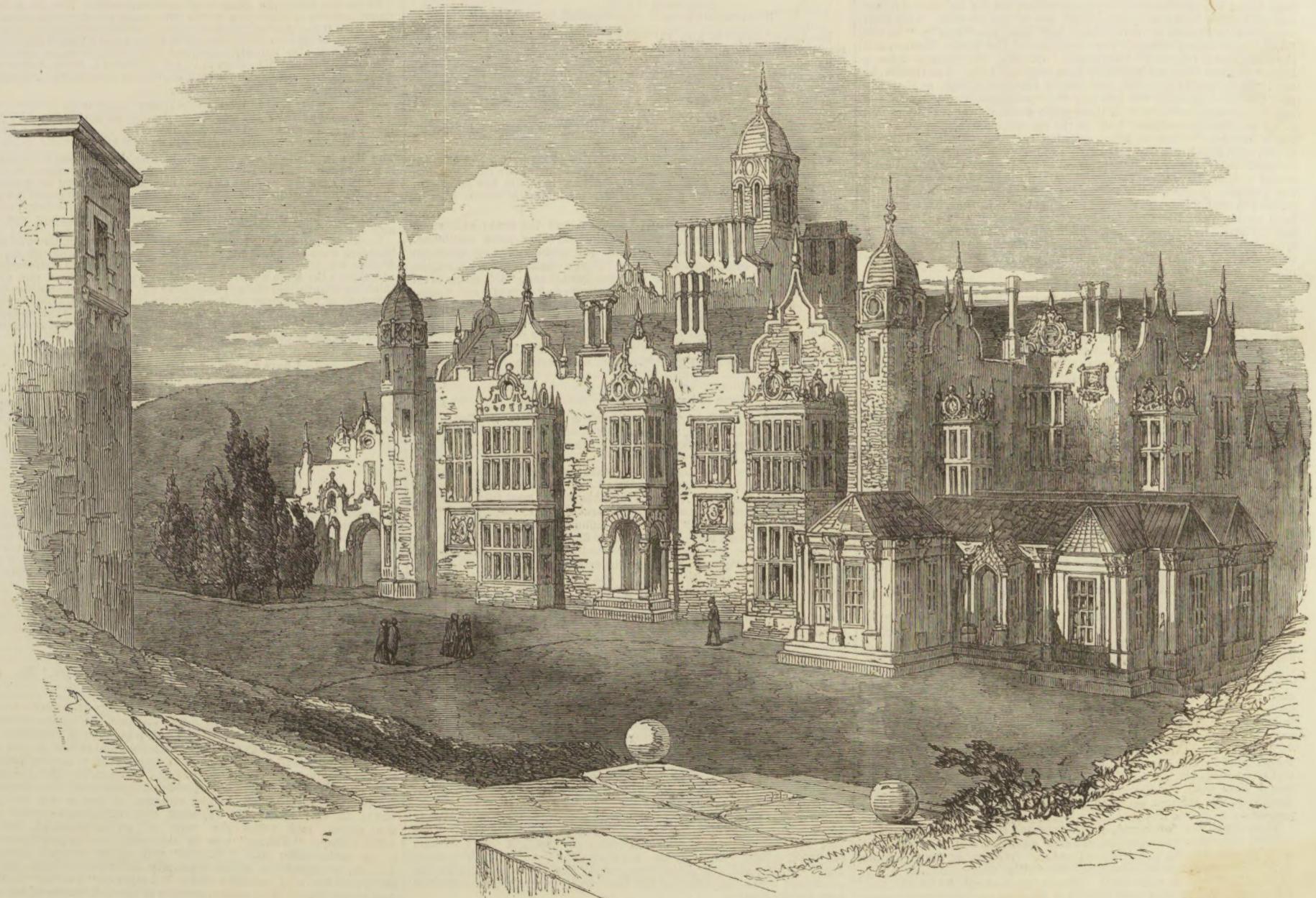
W. E. Parry, Captain Sir George Back, Captain Sir James C. Ross, Captain E. J. Bird, Rear-Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort, Hydrographer; John Barrow, Esq., Keeper of the Records of the Admiralty; Lieutenant-Colonel Sabine, Captain W. A. B. Hamilton, Secretary of Hospitals and Fleets; and Captain F. W. Beechey; whilst on the walls are represented portraits of Sir John Franklin, the Commander of the missing expedition of 1845, and Captain Fitzjames, who served under him on board the *Erebus*, where he was appointed to conduct the magnetic observations; and the late Sir James Barrow, who, during his official career, did so much to advocate and promote the Polar expeditions. The print is dedicated to Lady Franklin, and, we are sure, will be looked upon with deep interest by all who are proud of the enterprising spirit of our country, and feel a deep and painful interest in the fate of some of the bravest of her sons.

TEN SCENES IN THE LAST ASCENT OF MONT BLANC

By J. D. N. BROWNE. Maclean.

Those who are curious about the marvels and dangers incidental to an ascent of Mont Blanc will find here a more authentic and satisfactory account of them than any that has previously been produced, whether at the agreeable soirée in Piccadilly, or in the Guide-books. Mr. Browne and his companions, the latest adventurers upon the ice-clad mountain, appear to have conducted their proceedings so skilfully, and with such "pluck," that the certificate of their nine guides and of the syndic states:—"What is most remarkable, and what was never effected before, these gentlemen employed themselves in sketching the great panorama, and enjoyed all their faculties." The sketches so produced are now published in lithography, and striking pictures they are of mountain difficulty and human daring. Amongst them the most remarkable are:—"Incident before reaching the Grands Mulets," a most perilous escalade, all hands holding on the ladder; "The Camp of the Grands Mulets;" "Searching for the Passage of the Crevasse du Dôme," and crossing ditto (again all hands in one boat, on the edge of a fearful precipice); "First View of the Italian side of Mont Blanc—Monte Rosa, and the Mattu Horn in the distance;" "The Top of La Côte, giving a wonderful idea of the isolated position of the mountain top; and "Incidents in the Descent, and Valley of Chamonix;" the excursionists returning quicker than they went up, sliding down in a sitting posture, and taking the chance of when and how they may alight. These sketches are very spiritedly executed; and are accompanied by a lively narrative of the ascent to which they refer.

NEW KAFFIR EXHIBITION.—The St. George's Gallery, Hyde-park-corner, formerly used as the Great Chinese Exhibition, has been taken by Mr. Caldecott, a merchant, of Port Natal, for the purpose of presenting an exhibition of remarkable interest, consisting of a family of native Zulu Kaffirs—eleven men, a female, and a child. It is intended to represent the domestic manners, hunting the tiger, war-dances, superstitions, witch-finding, &c., of this wild and savage race; and Mr. C. Marshall (the artist of her Majesty's Theatre) is occupied in preparing a number of striking scenes.



HARLAXTON HOUSE, NEAR GRANTHAM, NOW IN COURSE OF ERECTION.

LITERATURE.

(Continued from page 355.)

many protests, amongst the sceptics. He makes some fun, and yet writes so much meant to be serious, that, on coming to the end of his book, we cannot decide whether it be *bond fide*, or a very prolonged and mixed piece of impertinence. The subject is very curious, as a specimen of Old-World superstition revived and extended across the ocean, and of the restless activity of the Americans even in propagating delusions. A brief history of the "rappings," such as might be compiled from Mr. Spicer's book, unmixed with other matters, would have been acceptable and popular. There is quite enough credulity in the world to gain a hearing for any and every kind of supernatural claim, if all of them do not command belief.

"Spirit rappings" are not indigenous amongst the Americans. They have borrowed them, like many other things, from the Europeans. They were rife in England in the seventeenth century; and, amongst others, the worthy Mr. Mompesson, at Tedworth, was then almost drummed out of his house by the spirit of a vagrant musician whom he had unfortunately insulted. The "Poltergeist" of the Germans is as familiar to all the readers of *diablerie* as "Rubezahl," and dates from as far back. There are numberless histories of disturbing noises in many old houses—rattling tables, slamming doors, of knights galloping at night in galleries, and all kinds of unearthly disturbances; and they have visited the families of the pious, like that of the Wesleys, as well as those of reputed great sinners. But all these were cases of mischievous or indignant ghosts, the spirits of individuals which, for injuries suffered or deeds done in the flesh, still thirsted for vengeance or sighed to unburthen a guilty conscience, and could not obtain repose till they had confessed their sins, revealed the deposits of some ill-gotten treasure, or plagued an oppressor to death. The American rappings are very different, and their historian should not have confounded a superstitious belief in the possibility of an injured or vindictive spirit visiting the earth with the theory professed by the Rappists, that the disembodied spirits of all who have ever lived are still around us, and can be summoned at pleasure and communicated with by some gifted and favoured persons. The first rappings date from March, 1848, and the theory from a subsequent period; yet so rapidly has the theory and the practice extended, that already, we are assured, "there are no less than thirty thousand *media* communicating" in all parts of the States with the souls of their deceased grandmothers, drowned brothers, hurried-away infant sisters, lost friends, and warriors, statesmen, and poets of ancient renown. "In the city of Philadelphia alone there are no fewer than three hundred magnetic circles, holding regular meetings, and receiving communications." To talk with a spirit in America is now as common as to communicate through the post-office or the telegraph; and men consult their dead ancestors about business as if they were their living partners. That wonderful agent, electricity, or magnetism, is asserted to be the means of communication; and a belief is confidently expressed and justified, too, by the rapid progress already made, if there be any true foundation for the whole, that we shall soon come to live in continual intercourse with the spirit world, just as we now guide our ships by the invisible magnetic fluid acting on the needle, and expect to guide them by it in all times to come. Such a wonderful change is not done justice to by Mr. Spicer, or the Rappists themselves, who are obviously not yet conscious of the mighty revelation they are, according to their theory, the chosen instrument to make.

Since this review was in type, an article has appeared in the *Leader*, of March 12, entitled "The Rappists Exposed," describing the means by which the delusion is practised, and convicting the "medium" then in London, by her own answers, of being "an impostor." It seems that the answers wished for or expected are indicated by the majority of questioners to the "medium" by a hesitation or stoppage at the letters which compose it. This slight change is quickly detected by the practised "medium," and the thought of the questioner is comprehended. If there be no hesitation, the "medium" can give no correct answers; and if there be, the "medium" can be made to give any answer by raps which a skilful questioner desires.

NOTES AND EMENDATIONS TO THE TEXT OF SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS. From early Manuscript Corrections in a Copy of the Folio (1632), in the possession of J. Payne Collier, Esq., F.S.A.; forming a Supplemental Volume to the Works of Shakespeare, by the same Editor. Printed for the Shakespeare Society.

THE STRATFORD SHAKESPEARE. Edited by Charles Knight. Specimen. Knight and Co.

This publication of Mr. Collier's has justly excited an unparalleled sensation among Shaksperian students. The copy of the folio of 1632, at the best, would not have been of very great value; but the MS. emendations, though written by an unknown hand, are of the greatest. That folio was preceded by one of 1623, which had been put forth by "Henrie Condell and John Heminge," the managers of the Globe Theatre, and the friends and fellows of Shakespeare. Of this, Mr. Knight takes a higher estimate than has generally been accorded to it. The theatre, he says, "there can be no doubt, possessed a manuscript copy, as Heminge and Condell expressly tell us; and the variations, especially in the metrical arrangements, even in those plays which appear the most alike, afford satisfactory evidence that, in the republication, some manuscript was referred to." The edition in question included 36 plays of Shakespeare; all, in fact, usually attributed to him, except "Pericles." It is, unquestionably, the most authentic text of Shakespeare's plays, and most recent editions have been constructed upon it, assisted by reference to the previous quartos, with respect to the fourteen plays originally printed in that form. The second folio, published in 1632, has generally been condemned. Steevens, however, for purposes of his own, erected it into an authority. It is, in fact, a mere reprint of the former folio, with typographical errors peculiar to itself, and clumsy alterations of errors suspected in the first. Chance, negligence, and ignorance had done their utmost to render it worse than useless.

It is on a copy of this exceedingly blundering edition that the MS. corrections now published by Mr. Collier have been written by some unknown hand. Many of them are but restorations of the text to that of the quartos or former folios; others are at present without any authority but the internal evidence of their correctness. As there is reason to conclude that the emendator never consulted the quartos at all, his occasional agreement with them must either have been lucky guessing or some authoritative MS. text. In part, also, this may be said of the first folio, from which he boldly differs whenever there is occasion, the occasion not always being obvious, and sometimes unsuspected by all subsequent commentators, and to which he sometimes adds entire lines, whose want was not felt until, by their introduction, it became clear that the readers of Shakespeare had habitually supplied the grammatical or logical connection by unconscious implication. The copy on which these evident corrections are made is torn and disfigured, soiled with blots, dirt, grease, tobacco, wine, and beer, or other liquids, and defaced by holes burned in the paper, either by the falling of the lighted snuff of a candle or by the ashes of tobacco. It is evidently a volume that had been well used and abused, employed, in short, in active service. That service can scarcely be said to be equivocal either, for numerous stage directions are added in the margin, the divisions into act and scene are carefully marked, and the passages to be omitted in representation crossed through. We should say at once that it was used as a prompt-book for some theatre where Shakespeare's plays were carefully acted.

The work came into Mr. Collier's possession quite in the ordinary way. He purchased it in 1849, of the late Mr. Rodd, the bookseller, as an imperfect copy of the folio of 1632, for the purpose of repairing another copy which he already had. It was some time before Mr. Collier discovered that he had acquired a treasure; and that the MS. corrections amounted to about 20,000—turned letters and punctuation included. On the cover he made out the name of "Thomas Perkins: his booke;" which he, at first, thought might be the old actor who had performed in Marlowe's "Jew of Malta," on its revival shortly before 1632. At this time he fancied that the binding was about that date, and that the volume might have been his; but, in the first place, he found that his name was Richard Perkins; and, in the next, he became satisfied that the rough calf was not the original binding. It is obvious, however, that Thomas might have been the descendant of Richard; and there is enough, besides, in the internal evidence to connect the copy with theatrical purposes.

Thus stand the facts; and, in the present state of the case, it is evident that these emendations, however good, have little evidence in their favour beyond their internal value. We are ignorant of the writer's authority for his corrections. Mr. Collier allows that they might, in some instances, be conjectural. Should this turn out to be the fact, this namesake emendator must have been the most extraordinary guesser in the world. The various editors of Shakespeare have all guessed too, but never so happily in any one instance as this manuscript—

anonymous one—has done uniformly in all. If this be guess work, the result is miraculous. We are decidedly of opinion that the only consistent assumption is, that the emendator proceeded on instruction; and that, as no printed model existed, he received help from some manuscript supposed to be sufficiently authentic.

It is likely, then, that he had the advantage of Shakspeare's original MSS. Even if he had, it is clear that he did not depend even on them alone. Heminge and Condell, as Mr. Knight states, probably printed their edition (at least, in part) from Shakspeare's MSS. The errors of that edition were such as would naturally arise at press, when the process was not superintended by either author or editor, but left to the staff establishment of the printing-house; and it is among the internal evidences to the MS. emendations in question that, for the most part, they relate to just such errors as would happen in such a case. Why, then, might not the emendations have had the Shaksperian MSS. for their exclusive basis? Because of the stage directions and prompter's marks included in them. These were not in Heminge and Condell's MSS., and were, therefore, not printed, as otherwise they would have been in their edition. But they would exist in other written copies; to wit, in those made by the prompter for the use of the actors and the general use of the theatre: in the latter case, a complete copy of the whole play, and in the former, of the separate parts. While, therefore, there is no evidence to show that the emendator before us had access to Shakspeare's own MSS., there is plenty to suggest that he had consulted MSS. used at some theatre in which the stage business was marked, after other needful corrections of the text had been most carefully made.

There is a point at issue between Mr. Collier and Mr. Knight as to Heminge and Collier's authorities. The former doubts whether some of the manuscripts used in the first folio were not received by dictation, instead of being original. "If," says Mr. Collier, "there be one point more clear than another, in connection with the text of Shakspeare as it has come down to us, it is that the person or persons who prepared the transcripts of the plays for the printer wrote by the *ear*, and not by the *eye*." Mr. Knight holds "such a process to be utterly incompatible with the general accuracy with which the vast mass of Shakspeare's dialogue has been preserved to us," and directly opposed to all the known facts connected with the original editions. "We believe," adds Mr. Knight, "in Heminge and Condell, who, seven years after Shakspeare's death, collected his works, and affirmed that they printed them from *his papers*. We do not believe, except in the few instances of those stolen and *sur-reptitious copies*, which it was the object of the first folio to offer *perfect*, that *short-hand writers* imperfectly took down the words as they *indistinctly heard them*; or that *inferior performers* furnished the booksellers with such parts as they sustained, or could in any way procure from the theatre; or that the same hirings, listening, as they must have done, to the repetitions of the principal actors, would be able to recite, with more or less accuracy, whole speeches, and even scenes, which a little ingenuity would convert into a drama. We do not readily imagine—we think it the wildest imagination that ever entered into the brain of man—that what these *inferior performers* had thus got by heart, they might dictate to some mechanical copyist; and thus many words, and even sentences, which sounded like something else, would be misrepresented in the printed editions, and nobody to take the pains to correct the blunders. Oh! much abused Macpherson, how authentic is the 'Ossian' in comparison with the text of Shakspeare as it has come down to us!"

For our parts, we think that the auricular theory (so to call it) has been carried too far; though, in relation to the quarto plays, no doubt it has some foundation; and Mr. Collier has instanced several errors which he supposes to have originated in that way. Thus, in the first of the quarto plays emended—"Much Ado about Nothing"—Mr. Collier notes the correction—

"No glory lives but in the lack of such,"

for "behind the back." In a previous instance, also, we find another example—in the printing of *truths* for "proofs." For "our Hero died defiled, but I do live," the corrector substitutes "belied."

Next of this class, we have "Love's Labour's Lost," where the copyist is supposed to have misread "double" for "dull." But the most notable of this class of errata occurs in one of the plays not out of the quarto-list of fourteen; namely, "Cymbeline." We give the whole, with the comment, in the manner adopted by Mr. Collier.

"Some jay of Italy,

Whose mother was her painting, hath betray'd him :
Poor I am stale, a garment out of fashion," &c.

Now, for "whose mother was her painting," of all editions, we are told by the amender of the folio, 1632, to read—

"Some jay of Italy,

Who smothers her with painting, hath betray'd him."

Mr. Collier enters into an extensive argument to justify the amended reading; but it may be safely left to make its own effect on the mind of our readers. The whole play of "Cymbeline," according to the corrector, is very erroneously printed; and well it may have been so, if composed from a dictated copy. Heminge and Condell do not seem to have had here Shakspeare's own manuscript; but a most corrupt substitute. We will adduce instances in proof.

The following passage (A. i. S. 5) we will give as amended, indicating the blunders in brackets:—

Ay, and the approbations [approbation] of those that weep this lamentable divorce and her dolours [under her colours] are wont wonderfully [are wonderfully] to extend him; be it but to fortify her judgment, which else an easy battery might lay flat, for taking a beggar without more [less] quality.

As thus corrected, nothing can be plainer than the text; as it stood uncorrected, it would be difficult to find anything more perplexed. In another scene, the plain phrase, "if you make good your vauntage upon her," had been corrupted into—"If you make your voyage upon her." For "the rich cope o'er sea and land," and "th' unnumber'd beach," of another passage, the corrupt text reads "crop of" and "numbered." In three other passages, the alteration of a single letter, such as "bo-peeping" for "by peeping," "pay" for "play," and "contemn" for "condemn," makes the meaning clear and strong that was previously doubtful and weak. One strange line—

Like a full Acorn'd Boare, a Jarman on,

is thus set right—

Like a full acorn'd boar, a foaming one.

This, however, is, evidently, a compositor's error, not the scribe's. The printer, as Mr. Collier says, "mistook the *f* with which *foaming* begins for a capital *J*—then frequently carried below the line—and did not attend to the *g* at the end of the word."

As might have been expected, the existing corruptions of the text have found defenders. Long association has lent a meaning to some, which, for the most part, being incapable of a literal interpretation, have been translated into metaphors—such, for example, as "her mother was her painting." These metaphors being removed by the plain straightforward sense, a passage once deemed poetical, is reduced to simple prose. Mr. Knight and others, therefore, complain of some of the alterations as "prosaic." Could it be established that the alterations were conjectural, and their prosaic quality a characteristic of the guesser's mind, the objection would indeed be fatal; but as the case actually stands it goes for nothing. Amongst the corrections that have raised most discussion is that of *Lady Macbeth's* interrogation, "What beast was it then?" &c., to "What boar was it then?" The text, indeed, seems at first to infer an antithesis between "man" and "beast"; but when looked into, the antithesis is seen to be a senseless one. What could *Lady Macbeth* mean by a "beast," making *Macbeth* "break an enterprise" to her? She could scarcely have alluded to that "subtle beast," the tempting serpent of Eden. She clearly had no such stuff in her thoughts; and, apart from this, the phrase is void and empty. The whole passage refers to a conference between the usurping Thane and his wife, prior to the date of the play. The weird sisters did but echo, not suggest, the murder previously "thought" of, and, therefore, "fantastically" represented in the prophecy of the three witches. Many other examples occur, in which the changes proposed go to corroborate the most philosophical views of the respective dramas thus corrected.

We reserve for our concluding remarks the most striking amendments of all—the insertion of entire lines wanting in the usual text. That they were wanting is now evident enough; but the fact was not even suspected before. The instance we first cite—from "Love's Labour Lost"—is pregnant with an inference which goes far to corroborate the conclusion above suggested, of the book being a prompter's corrected copy for the theatre.

Costard speaks out a soliloquy in rhyme at the close of the scene (A. iv, S. 1), one line in which is wanting, as is evident from the correspond-

ing line, and from the insertion of the addition, though in a wrong place, by the corrector of the folio, 1632. He perhaps intended to write it in the blank space nearest to where it ought to come in, but he has written in another blank space above it, and has drawn a mark with his pen to the spot where it is wanted. The whole passage is this, and the line in MS. we have printed in italics:—

"Armado of the one side—O, a most dainty man!
To see him walk before a lady, and to bear her fan!
To see him kiss his hand! and how most sweetly a' will swear!
Looking babies in her eyes, his passion to declare;
And his page o' t'other side, that handful of small wit!
Ah heavens, it is a most pathetical nit!"

Besides the entire line which escaped the printer or the copyist of the drama, the word *small* was also left out.

The inference which we would enforce is connected with the error committed by the writer as to the place for insertion of the added line. That line was evidently derived from a copy similarly altered, but the transcriber, proceeding mechanically, had inserted it in the wrong vacant space. On collating the two copies, the error was corrected. Now this proves to us that, in preparing the prompter's copy before us (for so we shall persist in calling it), a mere copying-clerk was employed—the business character of the handwriting supports the assumption—who was liable to mistakes, and that these mistakes were afterwards corrected, when collating his handiwork with his exemplar, either by himself or his employer, who most probably assisted in the collation; the one book being read between them against the other. This assumption explains the occasional erasures, and the slight differences in calligraphy which led Mr. Collier at first to suppose that two hands were engaged on the amendments. Probably, here and there there is a second hand, that of the prompter himself; the main corrections being made by his copyist. The book being intended for business purposes, the amendments were carefully engrossed in the margin, and clerical errata not merely struck through, and corrected, as they would probably have been in a draught intended for private reference, but scratched out with the penknife, and the proper words written on the erasure, with the care and neatness befitting a public document. Thus, regarding this amended copy of the folio of 1632, we feel justified in supposing it to have been at some period during the next ten years used in some theatre wherein Shakspeare was a stock dramatist, and where his works were carefully performed. We limit the period to ten years, because in about that time the theatres were closed. Mr. Knight's theory, that one of the discarded players, after that time, "might have employed his enforced leisure, between the shutting-up of the theatres and the Restoration, in preparing this volume for stage service if merrier times than those of the Puritans should arrive," is preposterously absurd. No: this volume had evidently seen plenty of stage service prior to 1642, and bears upon its face, as already stated, abundant marks of rough usage in that service. If our assumption be correct—borne out as it is by the evidence, and by the clerical errata—this volume may be found not to be the only one similarly corrected, though it is also probable that manuscripts with the prompter's instructions and stage directions inserted may have been used, and that the printed copy was thus corrected for the greater convenience of general reference. That the passages crossed through for omission in representation were also corrected, may serve to show that, on some occasions, they were restored, or might be, should the stage-manager direct a full, instead of an abridged performance of the play.

Of lines omitted, and thus supplied, Mr. Collier points attention to no fewer than nine instances. "From what source," he reasonably demands, "could these have been derived, if not from some more perfect copies, or from more faithful recitation? However we may be willing to depreciate the other emendations, and to maintain that they were only the results of bold, but happy speculation—the *felicitat audentia* of conjecture—how can we account for the recovery of nine distinct lines—most exactly adapted to the situations where they are inserted—except upon the supposition that they proceeded from the pen of the poet, and have been preserved by the curious accuracy of an individual—almost a contemporary—who, in some way, possessed the means of supplying them?"

It was evidently not for the sake of any "curious accuracy," as a matter of private taste, that this copy was thus prepared; and, as Mr. Collier himself remarks, "the erasures of passages and scenes are quite inconsistent with the notion that a new edition of the folio, 1632, was contemplated; and how are they, and the new stage directions, and asides, to be accounted for, excepting on the supposition that the volume once belonged to a person interested in, or connected with, one of our early theatres?" The entire undertaking was clearly a matter of specific business, and scarcely known to be of any value beyond the immediate theatrical use to which it was devoted. Mr. Collier, therefore, appears to us to have been perfectly justified in the following remarks:—

"My staff! Here, noble Henry, is my staff:
To think I gain would keep it makes me laugh:
As willingly I do the same resign,
As e'er thy father, Henry, made it mine."

The line in Italic type is met with in no old copy; but when we find it in a handwriting of about the time—when we see that something has so evidently been lost, and that what is offered is so nicely dovetailed into the place assigned to it—can we take upon ourselves to assert that it was foisted in without necessity or authority? On the contrary, ought we not to welcome it with thankfulness, as a fortunate recovery, and a valuable restoration?

In certain cases the absence of a corresponding line, in a rhyming speech, affords evidence that words terminating with the required jingle have been lost. Are we prepared to say that the old corrector, noting the want, has, of his own head, and out of his own head, forged and furnished it, making it also entirely consistent with what precedes and follows? When, in "Henry VI., Part II.," Act ii., Scene 3, Queen Margaret calls upon *Gloster* to relinquish his staff of office to her son, the Protector, addressing the young King, exclaims:—

"Pray be counsell'd.
I have a heart as little apt as yours,
But yet a brain, that leads my use of anger
To better vantage."

To what is *Volumnia*'s heart as little apt as that of *Coriolanus*? She does not tell us, and the sense is undeniably incomplete; but it is thus completed in the folio, 1632, by the addition of a lost line:—

"Pray be counsell'd.
I have a heart as little apt as yours
To brook control without the use of anger;
But yet a brain, that leads my use of anger
To better vantage."

It seems impossible to doubt the genuineness of this insertion, unless we go the length of pronouncing it not only an invention, but an invention of the utmost ingenuity; for, while it renders perfect the deficient sense, it shows at once what caused the error: the recurrence of the same words, "use of anger," at the end of two following lines deceived the old compositor, and induced him to fancy that he had already printed a line, which he had excluded.

On the whole, we think that Mr. Collier has rather under-stated than over-rated the claims of the manuscript emendations in question, and are happy to find that he has issued an edition of "Shakespeare" founded upon the assumption of their accuracy.

VILLETTÉ. By

plexity, is peculiarly well adapted to secure the approbation of enthusiastic spinsters and romantic chambermaids. What, for instance, can be more harrowing than to "feel a grief inexpressible over a loss unendurable;" or more delightful than to have "flash-elicting, truth-extorting interviews" with one's mistress; or more melting than to read of "life's hopes being torn by the roots out of a riven, outraged heart?" or more exciting than to be told by our suffering heroine that "with many a deep sob—with thrilling, icy shiver—with strong trembling, and yet with relief," wept? The sketches of Madame Beck, the schoolmistress, and Monsieur Paul the professor, are excellent, though given, perhaps, too much in detail; while the story, although deficient in plot, is interspersed with incidents which render it amusing.

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